PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

OFFICIAL REPORT

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THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Friday, 20th March, 1953.

The House met at Two of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CRITERIA FOR OPENING POST AND TELEGRAPH OFFICES

*897. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) under what circumstances Government open postal sub-offices and Telegraph Offices;

(b) whether Government put forward any conditions when requests come from the public and Institutions for opening new combined offices;

(c) if so, what are the conditions; and

(d) how the income of a Sub-office and a combined office is calculated to deem them to be self-supporting?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Generally all new offices opened in rural areas are given the status of extra departmental branch offices. But in special cases, in rural areas, and ordinarily in large towns, new offices are given the status of sub offices. The status of an existing branch office is raised to that of a sub office if the volume of postal business transacted in the office, or other considerations warrant it.

Combined offices are opened, if the telegraph traffic booked justified the opening of a telegraph branch in the sub post office. Such offices are also opened at the request of the Public provided that the scheme is remunerative or if the office is guaranteed against loss. In certain cases, telegraph offices are also opened if they satisfy certain conditions subject to a limit of loss of Rs. 500 per annum.

(b) Yes.

(c) A statement giving the information asked for is laid on the table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 28].

(d) A statement containing the information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 28].

Shri S. C. Samanta: The statement says that with effect from November 1951 the rules for opening telegraph offices have been liberalised. May I know whether the Government have received any representation from anywhere stating that this rule is not being followed but that the old rules are being followed?

Shri Raj Bahadur: So far as I am aware, such representations have not been received. In case there is any particular representation to which the hon. Member refers to, I would be glad to have a copy of it from him.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether Government are aware that in spite of repeated representations, post offices are not allowed in Travancore-Cochin on the ground that in a Pakuthy there is already one post office and that because a Pakuthy is wrongly considered to be synonymous with a village?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I am afraid I have already replied to the hon. Member on a previous occasion extensively on this question and I had assured him that we are going to rationalise the whole scheme in Travancore-Cochin.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know how many mass petitions are still pending consideration in regard to the opening

of post offices in Travancore-Cochin State under the circumstances detailed by him?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is not possible to give the total number of mass petitions.

Shri V. P. Nayar: There are hundreds and thousands.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I am not quite sure; of course, it is not possible.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Are there any instances where post offices existing in villages with a population of more than 2,000 each have been closed, as they were found to be unremunerative?

Shri Raj Bahadur: There are instances, of course. We have got an experimental period of five years during which period if the loss on a particular post office goes over Rs. 750, we have got to close it down. Then we have a minimum limit of Rs. 240 and in the course of five years if the loss comes to 240, then we make it permanent.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know how many new post offices and telegraph offices have been opened in 1952-53?

Shri Raj Bahadur: A full report on this is given in the statement of the activities of the Ministry.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is it under the contemplation of the Government to open a telegraph office in the Constitution House?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I will take note of the suggestion.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि जैसे संचरण विभाग ने दो हजार की आबादी वाले गांवों में डाक घर खोलने का क़ानून बनाया है या एक ऐसा प्रतिबंध लगाया है, तो ऐसे क्षेत्रों में जहां सघन आबादी नहीं है, वहां डाकखाने खोलने का क्या सरकार का विचार है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : इस से पूर्व एक अवसर पर मैं निवेदन कर चुका हूं कि हम इस नियम में कि आबादी के आधार पर ये नये डाकखाने खोले जांय, इस प्रकार संशोधन करना चाहते हैं कि आबादी के साथ साथ दूरी या फासले का भी ख्याल रक्खा जायगा; और यह बात अभी सरकार के विचाराधीन है।

Shri S. C. Samanta: One of the conditions stated by the hon. Minister for opening telegraph offices is that there should be no other telegraph office within a radius of five miles. May I know whether natural barriers and other things are considered and exemptions given?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Exceptions only prove the rule.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: I heard the hon. Minister say that telegraph offices will be opened even if it is proved to be a loss. What are those exceptions?

Shri Raj Bahadur: One of the exceptions is when the State Governments are prepared to furnish a guarantee against the loss.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Is the hon. Minister aware that Salem City which has got a population of 2 lakhs has got only one telegraph office and is it proposed to increase the number of telegraph offices.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How can he remember that? Possibly, he has not seen Salem.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have not seen Salem, but India is one and Salem as such is as good for me as my own home-town. I will take note of the information that has been given to me.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is a comprehensive one and every hon. Member wants a Post office. I am sure the hon. Minister will consider them.

Anti-Malaria Work

***899. Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the programme of Anti-malaria work which is envisaged under the Five Year Plan;

(b) in how many States the scheme will be worked (i) partially and (ii) wholly;

(c) what is the percentage of Central help given to each State in this connection;

(d) whether any experts are being recruited for the purpose; and

(e) if any training is being given or is likely to be given to the workers for the efficient working of the scheme in each State?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) to (c). A note giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 29].

(d) The necessary staff for the spraying operations under the scheme

will be recruited locally by the State Governments concerned.

(e) Yes. Malaria medical officers and malaria inspectors requiring training will be trained at the Malaria Institute of India and arrangements for training spraying crews will be made locally in each State.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं देखता हूं कि इस स्टेटमेंट में देहली स्टेट शामिल है, क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि देहली स्टेट में मलेरिया घटाने के वास्ते इस तरह की कार्यवाही शुरू हुई है या नहीं ?

राजकुमारी अमृत कौर : दिल्ली स्टेट के बारे में जरूरी इन्तज़ाम स्टेट गवर्नमेंट खुद करती है और यह सवाल उन से पूछना चाहिए, वैसे उन के लिए सब ज़रूरी इन्तज़ाम कर तो दिया गया है ।

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: May I know what efforts have Government taken to harness the Ayurvedic and other indigenous systems of medicine to fight Malaria and whether they intend to do it in future?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: This Malaria Control Scheme has got nothing to do with the Ayurvedic system. This is purely on modern lines.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know if there is any scheme to control malaria during the jute growing season?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Doubtless the Bengal Government will see that the Malaria Control Scheme does help in those areas where it is most needed.

Shri Punnoose: Government's statistics show that there are 100 million patients and one million mortality due to Malaria. May I know whether any improvement has been made on account of the work done in the last few years?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I could not give the statistics for the incidence of Malaria for the last two years, except in certain places. For example in Delhi it has come down tremendously and in four areas where the Malaria Control Schemes have been worked, namely, in Orissa, Madras, Mysore and Uttar Pradesh, definitely the incidence has come down. By and large in the Bombay State, I know the incidence of Malaria has been brought down considerably.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: May I know whether anti-malaria units have been provided to all the Part A and B States except Madhya Bharat and whether Madhya Bharat Government has requested for the supply of any anti-malaria unit, and, if so, what action is being taken by the Government?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a long question.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Sir, I will answer it very quickly. All States were requested to let us know whether they would have these units. Those States who replied in time have been supplied. Madhya Bharat was one of those which did not let us know in time. But, I am trying my best to see that Madhya Bharat too will have the two units, they now ask for.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether any particular aid was given to those States for the cultivation of cinchona plants?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Cultivation of cinchona does not come under this Plan but aid is given where cinchona is grown. Madras and Bengal grow cinchona.

Shri V. P. Nayar: It is stated in the report of the Planning Commission that we have 100 million people suffering from malaria. May I know whether there is any programme to evolve a positive cure for malaria and whether this cure will be made available to all people who are now suffering from malaria free of cost?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I do not see how this arises from this. I may say that in this particular programme about 125 million people residing in the malarious parts of India will be helped. Quinine is distributed wherever it is needed.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या माननीया मंत्रिणी जी को यह बात मालूम है कि कुछ वर्ष पहले नई दिल्ली में मलेरिया के मच्छर नहीं थे और अब वह खूब बढ़ रहे हैं ?

राजकुमारी अमृत कौर : जनाब, मलेरिया के मच्छर तो नहीं बढ़ रहे हैं, हां, मच्छर बढ़ रहे हैं । मलेरिया की बीमारी दिल्ली में आज पहले से कम है, ज्यादा नहीं है ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members, if they want, may have half an hour discussion over this.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic remedies are more effective than allopathic remedies in the matter of malaria?

Shri M. L. Dwivedi *rose*—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We have had sufficient questions. The next question also stands in his name.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: I wanted to put a question regarding malaria control.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am prepared to allow half-an-hour discussion on that.

ABOLITION OF CLASS I ON RAILWAYS

***900. Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) when the proposal to abolish Class I on the Railways is likely to materialise;

(b) whether Intermediate class has also been decided to be abolished;

(c) if so, when;

(d) what are the details of this plan; and

(e) what are the financial implications of the implementations of the plan, if any?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) First class accommodation has already been withdrawn from most of the branch lines and also from certain trains on the main lines. The complete withdrawal of first class accommodation, except from suburban trains, is expected to be effected by the 1st October 1953.

(b) and (c). It has not been decided to abolish the inter-class accommodation as such, but Railways have been left free to dispense with this class of accommodation on minor branch lines in the light of traffic requirements.

(d) A reference is invited to my reply under part (a) of the question.

(e) It will not be possible to precisely assess the financial implications of the proposal to withdraw first class accommodation from trains till after its full implementation and till we have had experience of its actual working.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: What is the loss likely to be incurred by the abolition of the first class?

Shri Alagesan: That is what I have stated in answer to part (e) of the question that it is rather difficult to assess this now.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether Government are aware that most of the people in India travel in inter-class and they are against the abolition of that class and they want that more inter-class compartments should be provided in the trains?

Shri Alagesan: There is no question of the abolition of inter-class as such. The railway administrations have been given the choice to handle that question as per traffic requirements.

Shri Raghuramaiah: May I know whether it is the intention of Government to substitute air-conditioned compartments in all cases where first class is removed,—at any rate on major lines?

Shri Alagesan: Not in all cases, Sir, but in mail and express trains.

Shri C. D. Pande: Is Government aware that in most lines, the second class is crowded, and when the first class is abolished, there will be still less accommodation in second class?

Shri Alagesan: First class coaches will be converted into second class coaches.

Shri V. G. Deshpande: When first class is abolished, will second class be called first class?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What will be the names of the classes when first class is abolished, will they be first, second and third or second and third?

Shri V. G. Deshpande: Or whether there will be second class without first class?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He wants to know the nomenclature.

Sardar Hukam Singh: When a question was put the answer was that there was no proposal so far for changing the classification. Now, we want to know if there is any proposal for changing the classification when first class is abolished, when second class will be the highest class in India?

Shri Alagesan: I have stated that first class coaches will be converted into second class and second class will be the highest.

Sardar Hukam Singh: The highest class will be the second class?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member need not argue.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know, Sir, why 1st October is fixed when the Minister gave an assurance that from 1st April first class will be abolished?

Shri Alagesan: No such assurance was given.

Shri Nanadas: What will be the position of third class after this change?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think it is time that we go to some other class.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: As a result of the abolition of the first class, are any special improvements likely to be made in other classes?

Shri Alagesan: It does not depend on the abolition of the first class, Sir.

MECHANIZED SEED FARM

***901. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to start a Mechanized Seed Farm in Jammu;

(b) if so, what would be the acreage of that Farm;

(c) whether the Government of Jammu and Kashmir have sanctioned the transfer of that land to the Government of India;

(d) when is that Farm proposed to be started; and

(e) the estimated cost of starting that Farm?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The farm has already been started from September 1952 in an area of about 2,000 acres as the first stage. It is proposed to expand the farm by another 5,000 acres this year and by another 5,000 acres next year bringing the total area of the farm to 12,000 acres in the course of three years.

(c) Yes.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Rs. 5,95,000 for the first stage.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, whether the 10,000 acres of land proposed to be brought under cultivation according to this Farm Aid scheme is already under cultivation?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It has been lying fallow for the last six years.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether there is any village on this fallow land, whether it is inhabited or not?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Sir, a lot of displaced persons are being brought in and they are being rehabilitated.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : इस फार्म में हर प्रकार के बीज तैयार किये जायेंगे या एक ही प्रकार के बीज तैयार किये जायेंगे ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : ज्यादातर तो यह पैंडी एरिया था मगर फिलहाल इस में गेहूं बोया गया है और गेहूं का बीज भी तैयार होगा ।

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the persons who have already settled on that land would be re-employed on that farm or not?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: At the time we went there, there was nobody and it was deserted land. The claims of all people will be taken into consideration and they will be restored to them if they come back and want to settle down there.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether this mechanised seed Farm will be controlled by the Central Tractor Organisation, and, if so, how many tractors have been sent there already?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The Central Tractor Organisation has nothing to do with this farm, Sir. It is a government farm looked after by the Central Government. The Central Tractor Organisation had some second-hand tractors which we have purchased from them.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: May I know what is the cost of acquisition of this land?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There is no cost of acquisition. There has been an agreement executed between the Kashmir Government and the Central Government by which we have taken it on lease for 10 years without any payment. We shall pay, however, the land revenue and other cesses.

Shri Kelappan: May I know what are the crops proposed to be raised on this farm?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: As I have said, Sir, this is very suitable for paddy cultivation. But since the paddy season was over this year, we have cultivated about 1,300 acres of land with *rabi* crop wheat.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the Government have taken any account, in relation to expenditure, of the yield?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, we have calculated the approximate cost that will be incurred. We have also taken into account what will be the yield and this should be, according to our calculations, greater, and there will be a net profit of at least Rs. 40 per acre.

Shri G. P. Sinha: In view of the fact that it is a ten years' lease granted by the Kashmir Government, when the land is returned after ten years, will the Central Government claim some compensation because the land has been reclaimed?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The whole thing has been worked out. This is a specific agreement. No compensation is to be paid. If there are any permanent buildings the Kashmir Government will pay. The other things will be removed.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: Do Government propose to start more mechanised farms in other parts of the country?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: If similar suitable circumstances are available Government do propose to have them.

Shri Gopala Rao: May I know why that particular area was selected? Were there any special reasons for it?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There is more than one reason why that particular area was chosen. First and foremost, it is very good land. Secondly there are canal irrigation facilities available. It is a big block of land where we thought seed production would be highly useful to the country.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi *rose*—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Ordinarily I allow three to five supplementary questions. But as it is the supplementary questions are blocking the other main questions. If the hon. Member was so anxious why should he not table a question himself originally?

NADIAD-KAPADVANJ RAILWAY LINE

*904. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the year in which the narrow gauge Nadiad Kapadvanj Railway was constructed;

(b) the total cost of constructing this Railway;

(c) whether it is a fact that the railings as well as the rolling stock on this line have become overaged and require replacement; and

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 1913.

(b) Rs. 16,25,127.

(c) and (d). The rails were laid in 1913 and are still fit for speeds of 20 miles per hour.

Of the 5 locomotives working, 2 are to be replaced by I. R. S. locomotives. The other 3 are not normally due replacement for another 8 years.

Of the 9 carriages due for replacement, 5 will be replaced during the next 3 months and the remaining 4 will be replaced during 1953-54.

Wagons are only replaced when their condition warrants it. 70 new wagons are expected to be placed on the line shortly.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether Government is examining the question of converting this line into a broad gauge one, with a view to joining it with the broad gauge at Nadiad?

Shri Alagesan: No, Sir.

Shri Dabhi: Is it a fact that the joint Director of Civil Engineering, Railway Board, has written to the Railway Passengers' Association that the question of conversion of this line into a broad gauge one has been referred to the General Manager, Western Railway?

Shri Alagesan: I would like to have notice of that question.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether a portion of this line was constructed as early as the year 1886 with the result that the speed of trains on it is considerably reduced?

Shri Alagesan: It was laid, Sir, in the year 1913. That is the answer I have given to part (a) of the question.

CENTRAL FERTILIZER POOL

*905. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what is the total quantity of fertilizers which the Travancore-Cochin Government will get from the Central Fertilizer Pool during the year 1953?

(b) What was the total quantity of ammonium sulphate produced in the Fertilizer Factory at Alwaye, in Travancore-Cochin, during the year 1952, and what is the total estimated output for 1953?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The Travancore-Cochin Government have asked for 6,200 tons of sulphate of ammonia and their requirements will be met in full.

(b) 20,142 tons of sulphate of ammonia were produced during the year 1952. The total estimated output for 1953, according to the factory, is of the order of 42,000 tons.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether, in making the allotment, the Government of India will enquire from the Travancore-Cochin Government as to the increased production of food-grains on account of the use of ammonium sulphate?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We have some idea; but if the hon. Member wants me to enquire, I shall.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether in fixing the quota to be given to Travancore-Cochin Government, this Government has enquired into the actual results of using the manure?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is the Travancore-Cochin Government. It only wants 6,200 tons. Is that Government such a child as to be constantly told as to ask for more? We are under the impression that there is no Government in any other part of the country and we alone must take charge of every piece of country.

Shri Nambiar: May I know, Sir, whether there are large quantities of stocks in the fertiliser factories, including the one at Alwaye?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is true; because of the high prices ruling a good deal of stock is lying. But we expect to utilise the whole lot.

Shri P. T. Chacko: Can the entire allotment to the Travancore-Cochin Government be made from the ammonium sulphate produced at the Alwaye factory?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: In all probability, Sir; but at the present moment I could not say.

Shri Matthen: Is the hon. Minister aware that production in Travancore-Cochin was impeded last year for dearth of sulphur and has he made arrangements for adequate supply of it?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I could not say, Sir.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether Government are aware that in the distribution of ammonium sulphate, there is considerable black-marketing in the Travancore-Cochin State and may I also know whether the Government of India is taking any steps in this matter?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There is no likelihood of any black-marketing, because we have not been in short supply. The black-market will arise only if we are in short supply. Last year we had considerable stocks and this year also our stocks are more or less sufficient.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let us not cast aspersions on anybody.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: May I know whether it is a fact that instead of distributing ammonium sulphate through Government agricultural farms the Travancore-Cochin Government have now handed over the job to a private agency which dilutes and adulterates the fertiliser and sells it at a higher price, without allowing any credit facilities to the farmers?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have not heard any complaints to that effect.

Shri Kelappan: May I know, Sir, how the price of indigenous fertilisers compares with the price of the imported stuff?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The price of the imported fertiliser was lower; but as the House is aware we have reduced the prices very considerably as against last year's prices by Rs. 75 per ton and there is likely to be a further reduction of Rs. 15 on account of freight and other things.

Construction of Roads in Kutch

*906. **Shri Jasani:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state the total mileage of road constructed in Kutch State from 1948 up-to-date?

(b) How much private land was acquired for this purpose and how much compensation will be paid for that?

(c) Has any compensation been paid, if so, how much and what amount still remains to be paid?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) 367 miles approximately.

(b) 5,000 acres. The estimated amount of compensation payable is Rs. 2.5 lakhs.

(c) The Local Administration is taking steps for the payment of the compensation.

Shri Jasani: While the land was acquired four years back, may I know the reason for the delay in the payment of compensation?

Shri Alagesan: The State Government are looking into the matter and they are likely to pay it early.

Shri Jasani: May I know how long it will take for the payment of compensation?

Shri Alagesan: The local administration is looking into the matter.

NATIONAL HEALTH PLAN

*907. **Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a Resolution passed by the Twentyninth Session of the All-India Medical Conference held in Patna on the 26th, 27th and 28th December, 1952 urging upon Government for chalking out an immediate and effective National Health Plan in consultation with the Union and State Health Ministers, Legislators and the Representatives of the Indian Medical Association?

(b) Have Government considered that Resolution?

(c) If so, what action do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) A Central Council of Health has been established consisting of all the Central and State Health Ministers whose main duty will be to consider and recommend broad lines of policy in regard to matters concerning Health in all its aspects.

As regards the question of chalking out a National Health Plan, a comprehensive health plan prepared by the Health Survey and Development Committee and the First Five Year Plan prepared by the Planning Commission already exist and it is not considered necessary to draw up another plan.

Shri Gidwani: Has the attention of Government been drawn to a resolution passed by this Conference asking for withdrawal of the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Act which was considered by the Association as wholly repugnant to the basic principles of the medical profession?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member's question is so long that by the time we come to the end of it, we forget the beginning.

Shri Gidwani: May I know whether Government intend to appoint a representative of the Medical Council on that Commission?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Which Commission?

Shri Gidwani: The National Health Commission.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: If the reference is to the appointment of a representative of the Medical Association on the Central Council of Health, it cannot be done.

Shri Gidwani: I want to know.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am afraid the hon. Member's questions are long-drawn-out and ununderstandable.

Shri Gidwani: I ask a definite question whether the Medical Conference has demanded that the power which they had to register medical qualifications today was being withdrawn under the new Act which Government contemplates to place before the House.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I do not quite see how it arises out of this question. If the reference is to the Indian Medical Council Act, Government is considering bringing in a Bill to replace the old Act.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So far as Acts are concerned, what is going to be the content of a particular Bill ought not to be the subject matter of a question.

JUTE

*908. **Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the experiments to grow better quality of Jute than that of Pakistan, made by the Indian Central Jute Committee were successful?

(b) If so, what steps have Government taken to grow this improved jute in the jute-growing area?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The Jute Agricultural Research Institute, which got sufficient land for agricultural research only at the end of 1949, has been carrying on research on evolving better varieties of jute but so far no results which are capable of immediate extension on a wide scale have been established. Results have been obtained in regard to research on better cultural and manurial practices and retting and these have been conveyed to the State Governments concerned for extension. Provision is also made for loans and grants for improvement in retting and better cultural practices.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether it is a fact that for want of agricultural finance the growers cannot improve the quality of jute?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Sir, I do not think it arises out of this question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not think so.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: May I know what site of land was chosen for these experiments?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I cannot describe the sites, but, as I have stated in the reply, certain sites we have got at the end of 1949.

Shri P. T. Chacko: What is the result of the experiments carried on in the West Coast on "Grow More Jute"?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I could not say; I have not got the information.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: What has been the total expenditure since 1949 on this Research Institute?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am sorry I have not got the figures.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether any effort is being made to have the improved type at Bimlipatam?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have no information.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know how far the results obtained by the I.C.J.C. in the Agricultural Research Institute have been given effect to by the different States—regarding this retting and other things?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Sir, perhaps my hon. friend knows about it more than myself since he is a member of the Jute Committee.

INDIAN CENTRAL JUTE COMMITTEE

*909. **Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) who are the personnel of the Indian Central Jute Committee; and

(b) whether this Committee is also investigating into the marketing of Jute and Jute-goods?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) An up-to-date list of Members of the Indian Central Jute Committee is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 30].

(b) The Committee studies the marketing of jute and jute goods as part of its normal work.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: In view of the Enquiry Committee of the same nature appointed by the Commerce and Industry Ministry what is the special purpose of this Committee?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The two Committees are entirely separate and their functions are also entirely distinct. So far as the Committtee appointed by the Food and Agriculture Ministry is concerned their intention is to find out what is the suitable land where it can be best grown and what are the various conditions under which is should be encouraged. So far as the Commerce and Industry Ministry Committee is concerned, their functions are entirely different. They will study, probably, the import-export requirements and so on.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: May I know whether any time-limit has been prescribed for the submission of the report of this Committee?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: No, they are expected to submit their report as early as possible.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether the Indian Central Jute Committee is associated with the Indian Jute Mills Association in any way?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There is some common membership. Certain persons who are represented here are also members there.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether it is a fact that the monthly Jute Bulletin issued by the Central Jute Committee is the mouth-piece of the Indian Jute Mills Association?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I do not think it is a correct description.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the hon. Minister has received any representation from any jute growing States in regard to better representation from those States in the Association?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have not got any such representation here.

CENTRAL MANURES (CONTROL) DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

*910. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to part (b) of starred question No. 748 asked on the 27th November, 1952 and state:

(a) whether the Central Committee for all manures and fertilizers has been constituted

(b) if so, what will be the precise constitution and functions of the Committee;

(c) the annual expenditure involved; and

(d) whether the proposal to levy a small cess on compost, sewage and sludge bones etc., as recommended by the Expert Committee of Manures and Fertilizers has been considered and decision taken?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). It has been decided to set up a Committee called the "Central Manures Committee" with a membership of five experts, partly from the Ministry and partly from the State Governments and two growers to be nominated. The functions of the Committee will be to take stock of results of manurial research and to make suggestions for the development of better manure use.

(c) About Rs. 2,000.

(d) It has not been found possible to accept the proposal.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether this Committee will be purely an advisory committee or whether it will be an executive one also?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It will be purely an advisory committee.

Shri S. N. Das: How many States representatives will be there?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: As I have stated, there will be five experts, partly from the Ministry and partly from the State Governments. It will depend upon the choice.

Shri S. N. Das: Will this Committee have its counteprarts in the States also?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It will depend, after knowing how this Committee functions. If we think it necessary, they will be constituted.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: Will this Committee be also consulted about the distribution of fertilizers?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: If it is found that any advice in that respect is necessary, the Committee may be consulted. But at the present moment there is no such idea.

PROJECT TRAINING CENTRES

*911. **Shri L. J. Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the different subjects of training given at different Project Training Centres; and

(b) the facilities given to the trainees at different Centres?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Agriculture; Co-operation, Panchayats and Village Housing, Public Health, Sanitation and Hygiene; Animal Husbandry and Veterinary, Adult Education and Extension Methods.

(b) A stipend up to Rs. 50 p.m. is paid to each trainee and also free accommodation and medical attention.

Shri L. J. Singh: May I know whether the subjects of training are uniformly given in all centres, or whether the subjects of training are given differently at different centres?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is expected to have uniformity in all these training centres.

Shri L. J. Singh: Will the hon. Minister be pleased to give State-wise the names of training centres opened so far?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I have not got the information here, but I believe I have given it in reply to some other question.

Shri Gopala Rao: May I know how the students are selected for these training centres? What are the qualifications necessary?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Generally these are, at least for the present, persons working in the Agriculture Departments of State Governments. They are generally of the Agricultural Jamedar or Assistant's standard. I could not describe the educational qualification because it may vary from State to State.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether any village workers volunteering are also taken as trainees?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: For the present not: later on they may be.

Shri Dabhi: May I know the places where these project training centres are situated in the State of Bombay?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has already answered that.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I want notice of the question.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: Are there any qualifications for these trainees?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has already answered that.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: They are from the Agriculture Departments of State Governments.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: Is no educational qualification necessary?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Whatever is necessary for recruitment to Government service.

Shri L. J. Singh: May I know the period of training a trainee has to take?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I could not say, Sir.

Shri B. S. Murthy: One question, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have allowed seven supplementaries. Next question.

INDORE-UJJAIN RAILWAY LINE

*912. **Shri Raghavaiah:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the construction of the Broad-gauge railway line between Indore and Ujjain has been abandoned;

(b) if so, why; and

(c) when Government propose to start the construction of this Railway line?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) to (c). A final survey for the construction of a broad gauge line between Indore and Ujjain has yet to be made. The question of abandonment of the construction, therefore, does not arise.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know whether any representations have been made by the people of that locality?

Shri Alagesan: Yes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Next question, 913.

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): We shall take up questions Nos. 913 and 920 together as the subject is the same.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Yes.

COAL MINES PROVIDENT FUND

*913. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether the recommendations of the Board of Trustees for Coal Mines Provident Fund providing for the Miners' Provident Fund Contribution to be assessed on the basis of their total emoluments including food concessions, have been approved by Government?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): The matter is under consideration.

CONCILIATION BOARD FOR WAGES

*920. **Shri Ramananda Das:** (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether Government received any representation from the Indian National Miners' Federation and other Labour organisations of coal-miners requesting to set up a conciliation Board for the revision of wages, allowances and other benefits of the miners as the award of the conciliation Board of 1947 is out of date by now?

(b) If so, what steps have Government taken or contemplate to take in the matter and by what approximate date?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) Yes.

(b) Government will arrive at an early decision in the matter of setting up of Conciliation Board or an Industrial Tribunal.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the Gadgil Committee's recommendations will also be taken into consideration?

Shri V. V. Giri: Certainly, they will be taken into consideration.

TOURIST TRAFFIC

*914. **Dr. Amin:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of money spent by Government on publicity campaign on Tourist Traffic during each of the years from 1948 to 1952; and

(b) the number and nationality of foreign tourists who visited India during 1952?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No expenditure was incurred on tourist publicity during 1948 to 1950. The expenditure during 1950-51 and 1951-52 was Rs. 3,20,882 and Rs. 2,07,409 respectively. As regards 1952-53 full figures are not yet available. It is however estimated that the total expenditure will not exceed Rs. 4 lakhs.

(b) The total number of foreign tourists who visited India during 1952 is 25,448. A statement showing the number of tourists' arrivals nationality-wise for 1952 is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 31].

Dr. Amin: May I know what is the total amount of foreign exchange earned each year from this tourist traffic?

Shri Alagesan: It has been calculated to be roughly about rupees two and half crores.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether the tourist traffic nowadays is on the upper trend or is decreasing now?

Shri Alagesan: In 1951 it was about 20,000. Last year it was 25,000. It is increasing.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether any reduction in fares was granted to these tourists?

Shri Alagesan: Not that I am aware of.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether the M.R.A. group which came recently were treated as tourists and any concessions granted to them?

Shri Alagesan: No concessions have been granted to them.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: What steps Government are taking to attract tourist traffic in India?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is a general problem. Hon. Members have received pamphlets.

Dr. Suresh Chandra: These pamphlets do not attract tourists.

Dr. Amin: May I know whether the prohibition policy of the State Governments is affecting the tourist traffic?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We are going from one to the other.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether any of these tourists have been provided with special trains?

Shri Alagesan: If they are provided with special trains, they will be paying for them.

REBATE TO SUGAR FACTORIES

*915. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether rebate from the minimum price of sugar-cane fixed for 1952-53 has been granted to any sugar factory and if so, to how many and on what grounds?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): Yes. The sugar factories have been allowed a rebate of 3 pies per maund mile, subject to a maximum of 3 annas per maund in the minimum sugarcane price of Rs. 1/5/- per maund fixed for gate cane in case of sugarcane transported by them from a road centre to the factory gate in their own transport. A statement showing cases in which rebate in excess of As. -/3/- per maund has been allowed to cover extra transport charges in consideration of either long distance and/or bad condition of road or for some other special reasons is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 32]. In all these cases higher rebate was allowed with the consent of the cane growers of the area or their cooperative societies.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know what is meant by the term "other special reasons" mentioned in the answer?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The wording is expected to cover any special circumstances recommended and accepted by the Co-operative Society of the State Government.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know how this grant of rebate has been reacted to by the growers and manufacturers in those areas?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I do not follow the first part.

Shri Jhulan Sinha. Whether the reaction of the Growers and Manufacturers has been favourable or unfavourable?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There has been no complaint so far made against this. I think it is satisfactory.

Shri Gopala Rao: Were the cane growers consulted?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes.

Shri Gopala Rao: Can you mention names?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: They are given in the statement. I think they are mostly from U.P.

Shri Shivananjappa: Are Government considering the abolition of cane cess?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: No, Sir. It belongs to the State Government. We have nothing to do with it.

Per Capita CONSUMPTION OF FOODGRAIN

*916. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rationing of foodgrains during the period of scarcity has been based on a calculation of 9 to 12 ounces per adult per day; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the result of the last Sample Survey in the country revealed the consumption per person at over 18 ounces per *capita* per day including minors?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Normally, the scale of foodgrains ration allowed from Government shops is 12 ounces per adult per day. No distinction is generally made between the periods of scarcity and non-scarcity in respect of the overall scale of ration.

(b) The National Sample Survey estimate of *per capita* cereal consumption

of 18·3 ounces per day relates to rural population only and not to the country as a whole.

Shri P. T. Chacko: Is not the *per capita* amount of foodgrains supplied in the Travancore-Cochin State far below 12 oz?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Wherever there is statutory rationing, the *per capita* is 12 oz. Where there is moderate rationing the supply there is a little less.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know the average quantity of grain supplied in areas for which these figures have been given?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: You mean for the whole of India you want figures? It is a big list. I can go on giving the list.

Shri Dabhi: May I know the *per capita* consumption per day State-wise in rural areas and whether it is a fact that consumption *per capita* is lowest in Bombay and Madras?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The first report of this National Sample Survey presents only a tentative figure. This is derived out of the results of the first round of enquiries which are tentative in character. According to N.S.S. Report some more enquiries are necessary before the final figures are ascertained. It is not the final figure but anyhow it is a fact that people in the rural areas consume more than the urban population.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The hon. Minister said that where there is modified rationing, a lesser quantity is allowed. I want to know what is the reason for this.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: That is because in the statutory rationing areas free market is not allowed and they have got to buy from the Government shops. Wherever moderate rationing is allowed, free market exists and one can purchase any amount of grains in the free market.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether it is a fact that in the Five Year Plan it is stated that the *per capita* consumption of grains is lowest in Madras and Bombay States?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: According to the National Sample Survey, I can give out the figures. For North India they have calculated it as 20.7 oz. *per capita*; in East India, including Andaman and Nicobar it comes to 18·4; in South India it comes to 16·5; in West India it comes to 14·5; in Central India it comes to 16·5; in North-West India, it is 25·4.

Shri Gopala Rao: May I know how near are the figures obtained through this Sample Survey, to the realities?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I have already replied that they are tentative figures. They are not final figures.

Shri P. T. Chacko: Are the Government aware that for the last several years, *per capita* amount of foodgrains allowed to the people of Travancore-Cochin was only below 6 oz?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Last year they were getting about 9 oz. Now we have increased it to 12 oz.

Shri P. T. Chacko: Four and a half ounces last year.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Four and a half ounces is the rice portion of the overall ration.

ALL-INDIA WOMEN'S FOOD COUNCIL

*917. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount so far spent on the Organisation and running of the All India Women's Food Council up-to-date;

(b) the profit gained or loss incurred thereon; and

(c) the nature and extent of its achievements in relieving food shortage?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Grants-in-aid given to the All India Women's Food Council from 1950-51 to 1952-53 are detailed below:—

1950-51 (6 months ending March, 1951)—Rs. 70,000.

1951-52—Rs. 1,50,000.

1952-53—Rs. 1,50,000.

(b) A net profit of Rs. 83,500 is estimated up to the end of March, 1953.

(c) The main function of the Council is to popularise the consumption of supplementary foods, and the Council's efforts in this direction have met with considerable success.

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know what will be the percentage of profits on the net amount granted to the Council?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I cannot give the figure because it is an aid that we are giving. It is a semi-official organisation. All the money that we give to them they do not invest only

in the cafeterias. They spend the money that they got from the Government on organisation also. If the hon. Member wants that figure, I am prepared to give that later on.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: How many branches of the All India Women's Food Council are working at present in the country? May I know whether each of them is getting a grant and if so what is the amount that each is getting?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: They have got a net work of 35 branches all over India. They are running about 17 permanent cafeterias throughout the country. The 35 branches carry on some sort of temporary Exhibition cafeterias in Exhibitions, fairs and such places where people gather: not of a permanent nature.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether the Bihar Branch of the All India Women's Council has got some grant or has it been stopped?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: All the organisations which are affiliated to this Central Women's Food Council get the grants.

Shri Bansal: If there is any net profit, how is this money grant being utilised?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is utilised for extension of the service. They are doing excellent service. We want to see that the benefit of the service is extended throughout the country.

Prof. D. C. Sharma: May I know how this profit is utilised?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I have already replied that it will be utilised in extension of the same service.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether the amount granted as grant-in-aid to this Council includes the amount paid by the State Governments also?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yes. They do get some grants from the various State Governments. Our grant is the major grant.

Dr. Amin: May I know what is the percentage of the total population of India which is benefited by the activities of this Council?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: They say that in each of the permanent cafeterias the average daily attendance is from 1,500 to 5,000 nearly. The hon. Member can calculate and have an idea of how many people are deriving benefit.

CANADIAN MISSION

*918. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Canadian Specialists in co-operative and Agricultural Farming have been invited to train in co-operative and agricultural methods and if so, when will they arrive?

(b) How many men will be in that Mission and what are their names?

(c) What expenditure Government will have to bear for this Mission and how many places the Mission will visit?

(d) Do Government propose to include Bilaspur in Madhya Pradesh in the tour programme of the Commission to see the various types of co-operative societies being class I co-operative societies which are run there?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Canadian Specialists have not been invited to give training in co-operative and agricultural methods but a Canadian Agricultural and Co-operative Mission has come here on a study tour.

(b) The Mission consists of Mr. Howard L. Trueman, Mr. J. Edward O'Meara, Rev. Michael Joseph Mackinnon and Mr. Rosario H. Tremblay.

(c) No expenditure will be borne by the Government of India. The Mission will visit 20 places. A copy of their tour programme and the list of societies to be visited by them is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 33].

(d) No.

TORTOISE EGGS

*921. **Sardar A. S. Saigal:** (a) Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state whether Government are aware that tortoise eggs, nearly forty thousand are being consumed in Delhi?

(b) Is it a fact that the State Government of Delhi approached the Government of India to amend the Food Adulteration Act, so that such offences may be brought within its purview?

(c) What is the hitch in not amending the Act stated in part (b) above?

(d) Have Government conducted any laboratory test and if so, with what result?

(e) Is it a fact that on account of excessive demand for eggs this practice is going on since three to four years?

(f) Is it a fact that tortoise eggs are injurious to the health of the general public?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) and (e). No definite information in the matter is available.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Tests conducted at the Nutrition Research Laboratories, Coonoor, about hens eggs and at the Bihar Nutrition Laboratory, Patna, about turtles eggs have revealed that there is practically no difference in their food value.

(f) No evil effects resulting from the consumption of tortoise eggs have come to the notice of Government.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether these eggs are regularly supplied to Members of Parliament in the Government hostels?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Members ought to know better than I.

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : क्या मंत्रानी महोदया यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगी कि क्या आज कल टोर्टाइज़ एग्स का इस्तेमाल दिल्ली में काफ़ी हो रहा है और इस के विषय में पत्रों में भी काफी समाचार प्रकाशित हो रहे हैं ?

राजकुमारी अमृत कौर : मैं ने इस सवाल का जवाब दे दिया है । मेरे पास इस बारे में और ज्यादा इन्फार्मेशन नहीं है ।

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : क्या मैं सरकार से यह प्रार्थना कर सकता हूं कि वह इस के बारे में पूरी तहकीकात कर के सारी बातें हाउस के सामने रखने की कृपा करें ?

राजकुमारी अमृत कौर : मेरे पास इस सवाल का जवाब यही है कि इस बारे में उनको स्टेट गवर्नमेंट से प्रार्थना करनी चाहिये ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Only hon. Members who take eggs must put supplementaries.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The hon. Minister said just now that there was no difference in food value. May I know whether as a result of research conducted in these laboratories, it has been found to have any injurious effect if eggs of chelonian reptiles are used?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: As far as I am aware, no.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We are now only concerned with tortoises.

Shri Bansal: If there is no difference in the nutritive value of these eggs, are Government taking any steps to popularise their consumption?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Very well. Taste and other things are there. Next question.

Double Railway Line over Krishna Bridge

***922. Shri Gopala Rao:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether Government are contemplating to lay double Railway lines on the Krishna Bridge in view of the congestion in Railway traffic there?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): No, but, in connection with the Five Year Plan, it is proposed to separate the existing mixed gauge into separate Broad Gauge and Metre Gauge between Kistna Block House and Sitanagaram North Cabin, and widen the railway bridge across the Kistna Western Canal to increase the line capacity.

Shri Gopala Rao: Whether the Government are prepared to lay double lines: that was the question. It has not been answered.

Shri Alagesan: No.

Shri Raghavaiah: Have any representations been made to the Ministry of Railways regarding this, to see that this materialises as early as possible?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Sir. It will be done as early as possible.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether the Minister is aware that there is a great volume of public opinion on this in view of the bottleneck between Bezwada and Tenali?

Shri Alagesan: This has been sufficiently discussed during the Budget debate. We are taking all necessary steps.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know whether it is placed in Part I of the Five Year Plan or Part II?

Shri Alagesan: It is in Part I of the Five Year Plan.

RAILWAY STATION FOR ULHAS NAGAR

*924. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the displaced persons staying in Ulhas Nagar (Bombay State) have been making representations for providing two railway stations between Kalyan and Titwala and between Vithalvadi and Ambernath since last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Chief Traffic Manager, Bombay, in his letter No. RCG 1341, dated the 28th December, 1951 had replied to Shri Indur Jeswani to the effect that it had been decided to open a new Flag station at mileage 35-1/8 on the North East section of this Railway as desired by the Government of Bombay;

(c) if so, why there has been delay in opening the same; and

(d) when the stations will be opened at the proposed sites?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) Detailed investigations had to be carried out for locating a station between Kalyan and Titwala. The site originally contemplated had to be changed to suit the proposed layout of the road etc. for the new township, necessitating the preparation of fresh plans.

(d) The work in connection with the provision of a station between Kalyan and Titwala is expected to be completed in another six months. The proposal to open a station between Vithalvadi and Ambernath is, however, still under investigation.

Shri Gidwani: How long will it take to complete this station?

Shri Alagesan: I have already answered that a station between Kalyan and Titwala will be completed in another six months. The question of opening the other station is still under investigation.

Shri Gidwani: Are the Government aware that for three years people have been demanding this and that the Chief Traffic Manager promised that the matter would be expedited?

Shri Alagesan: I have already said that representations have been made, but that the location of the station had to be changed because of the change in the lay out of the township. That also accounts for the delay.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question-hour is over.

Short Notice Question and Answer

CLOSING DOWN OF OORGAM GOLD MINES

Shri Keshavaiengar: (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Oorgam Gold Mines employing about 4,000 labourers is likely to be closed down.

(b) Do Government contemplate to appoint a Commission to investigate into this matter.

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) Information to this effect has been received.

(b) The question of appointing a Committee is immediate consideration of Government.

Shri Keshavaiengar: Does the Government contemplate to take any steps to maintain the *status quo* until a final decision is arrived at?

Shri V. V. Giri: That is also a matter that is being considered.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether the Minister can give us a guarantee that till the matter is fully considered, the mines will not be closed?

Shri V. V. Giri: I have already stated that matter.

Shri Punnoose: May I know the number of workers employed in that mine?

Shri V. V. Giri: 3,500 to 4,000.

Shri Veeraswamy: What is the reason for the decision to close down that mine?

Shri V. V. Giri: It is not economical and it has gone so deep they fear there are accidents all the time.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether the State Government is looking into this matter and what action the State Government has taken, and whether the labour leaders also were consulted in the matter?

Shri V. V. Giri: The State Government has suggested the appointment of a Committee, and we are examining that aspect.

Shri Nambiar: What is the estimated amount of gold lost if that mine is closed?

Shri V. V. Giri: I have not got the answer for it readily.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CHITTARANJAN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS

*919. **Shri B. N. Roy:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made at the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works for the manufacture of locomotives and Railway compartments upto February, 1953;

(b) whether any locomotives or compartments manufactured in that factory are working now; and

(c) if so, what is their number?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The Chittaranjan Locomotive Works produced 54 engines up to the end of February 1953. No coaches are manufactured at these works.

(b) Yes, as far as engines are concerned.

(c) 49 engines.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

*923. **Shri Sivamurthi Swami:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state how many National and International Conferences have been held in India since 1950, to discuss the problems of Agriculture?

(b) What were the main subjects discussed?

(c) Were any discussions or proposals considered in those Conferences to introduce the Crop Insurance Scheme?

(d) If not, do Government propose to introduce such scheme in India?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

GROW MORE FOOD ENQUIRY COMMITTEE REPORT

*925. **Shri Lakshman Singh Charak:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state what action Government have taken on the Grow More Food Enquiry Committee Report submitted in 1951?

(b) What recommendations made by the Committee have been accepted by Government?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). The main recommendations of the G.M.F. Enquiry Committee were, setting up of an Extension Organisation, an Advisory Council at the Centre, evaluation of results, special financial aid for minor irrigation schemes and provision of short-term credit facilities for seeds and fertilisers. The Government of India have accepted these recommendations. A beginning in the setting up of the extension organisation is being made from 1953-54 and the training of village workers is already being undertaken by the State Governments. An annual provision of Rs. 10 crores for special minor irrigation schemes was made this year and is being continued for the next three years. The evaluation organisation is being strengthened and special committees to review and make proposals for the development of seed multiplication and manuring are being set up. Provision for Rs. 8 crores for short-term loans to farmers has been made for 1953-54 and the Reserve Bank is taking steps to expand rural credit through Co-operative organisations. Other recommendations which need action by the State Governments have been taken up with them.

FOOD SCARCITY IN MYSORE

*926. **Shri N. Rachiah:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of area affected by the famine in Mysore and the names of districts and Taluks where acute conditions of famine prevailed;

(b) the extent of damage thus caused;

(c) the primary reasons of famine; and

(d) the nature of assistance rendered by the Central Government?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Famine in the technical sense is not prevailing in any part of Mysore. Scarcity conditions are, however, existing in the areas affected by draught, a list of which is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 34].

(b) Exact figures regarding extent of damage have not been compiled.

(c) Unprecedented failure of rains during the year and consequent failure of crops and scarcity of drinking water and fodder have led to the present scarcity.

(d) The Government of India have offered a loan of Rs. 13 lakhs for scarcity relief during this year. The question of further assistance is under consideration.

RAILWAY COACHES FROM SWITZERLAND

*927. **Dr. Amin:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the landed cost of passenger coaches of different classes purchased from Switzerland;

(b) the number of such coaches purchased from that country so far;

(c) the date or dates on which orders for the supply of such coaches were placed;

(d) whether orders for the supply of such coaches from Swizerland are still pending and if so, when they are expected to be received; and

(e) how the cost of an imported passenger coach compares with that of a similar coach manufactured in India?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) A statement showing full particulars of cost ex-Works, freight, customs duty, etc., for the different classes of coaches supplied by the Swiss firm is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 35].

(b) 102.

(c) December 1949—For 2 prototypes and 50 furnished coaches.

January 1951—For 50 unfurnished coaches.

(d) Supply of 50 coaches against the second order is pending. These are expected to be received in 1953-54.

(e) Coaches of a similar type of construction are not made in India as yet, but generally, the cost of building a coach in India is much lower than the cost of importing similar coaches.

BRANCH POST OFFICES IN PUNJAB

*928. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state the number of branch post-offices opened in the Punjab during the years 1951-52 and 1952-53?

(b) How many branch post offices in the Punjab are self-supporting?

(c) How many branch post-offices are proposed to be opened in the Punjab during the year 1953-54?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 327, of these 283 in 1951-52 and 44 in 1952-53.

(b) (i) Out of these 327, 26 Post Offices are self-supporting.

(ii) Taking the Punjab Circle as a whole, the position is that out of 3,251 post offices existing on the 31st December 1952, 1,437 Post Offices were self-supporting.

(c) The future policy for opening rural post offices which will be based on population to be served and the distance of the proposed Post Office from the existing post offices is going to be determined shortly. The number of Post Offices to be opened in the Punjab will depend on the application of that policy.

लाख व्यापार

*९२९. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह** : क्या **खाद्य तथा कृषि** मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे ?

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में से प्रत्येक में भारत में उत्पादित लाख की परिमात्रा ;

(ख) इसी अवधि में अन्य देशों को निर्यात की गई लाख की परिमात्रा ;

(ग) उत्तर प्रदेश में लाख का उत्पादन भारत के समस्त उत्पादन का कितना प्रतिशत है ;

(घ) क्या मिर्जापुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) का लाख का व्यापार कम होता जा रहा है ; और यदि हां, तो उसके कारण ;

(ङ) लाख के व्यापार में कौन सा अन्य देश भारत का प्रतियोगी है ; तथा

(च) भारतीय लाख व्यापार को बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाहियां की जा रही हैं ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 36].

(c) Percentage share of the production of lac in Uttar Pradesh to the total production in India is as under:—

Year	Percentage share
1949-50	0·3
1950-51	1·2
1951-52	0.8

(d) Yes. The reasons are that the import of lac to Mirzapur from lac-growing areas (i.e. Bihar and Madhya Pradesh) ceased consequent on the opening of shellac factories there as it was more economical to manufacture shellac in the lac growing areas.

(e) Thailand.

(f) The Indian Lac Cess Committee has been set up for the improvement and development of methods of cultivation, manufacture and marketing of Indian lac. The Committee has under it the Indian Lac Research Institute which is carrying on research on lac, both entomological and chemical, including physico-chemical, and which has found many uses for shellac.

INDIAN SHIPPING COMPANIES

*930. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state the names of the Indian Shipping Companies engaged in the overseas trade of India?

(b) What is the tonnage owned by each?

(c) What percentage of import and export trade of India did they secure in the years 1951-52 and 1952-53?

(d) How many of them have their programmes of expansion ready?

(e) How much loan is proposed to be given to each of them?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). The required information is given below:

(1) Scindia Steam Navigation Co. Ltd., Bombay—2,05,620 GRT of which only 90.296 GRT are employed in the overseas trade.

(2) India Steamship Co. Ltd., Calcutta.—58,332 GRT.

(3) Eastern Shipping Corporation Ltd., Bombay.—14,433 GRT.

(c) The information is not available.

(d) So far as is known to Government, the Eastern Shipping Corporation Ltd. has finalised its plans for expansion.

(e) No application for loan has so far been received from any of the companies.

ALLOTMENT OF WAGONS FOR COTTON SEEDS AT BHILWARA

*931. **Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether cotton seeds is a non-preferential item for booking from stations on the Western Railway particularly from Bhilwara; and

(b) whether local merchants of Bhilwara have received no allotment of wagons for cotton seeds movement for the last one month?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) On the Western Railway traffic in cotton seeds falls in the category of non-preferential traffic.

(b) It is not a fact that local merchants of Bhilwara have received no allotment of wagons for movement of cotton seeds for the last one month.

LAND UNDER PULSES CULTIVATION

633. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of acres of land in each State in which each kind of cereals was grown during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952; and

(b) the number of acres of land in each State in which each kind of pulses was grown during the years 1950, 1951 and 1952?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). A statement giving the available information is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 37].

BANSWARA-RATLAM RAILWAY LINE

634. **Shri Bheekha Bhai:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct a railway line to connect Banswara with Ratlam or Dohad or Udaigarh; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above is in the negative, whether Government propose to take any of these lines under the Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). No.

RE-MODELLING OF SONEPUR RAILWAY STATION

635. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts sanctioned for remodelling of Sonepur (N. E.) Railway Station; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the work of covering Sonepur Station platform has not begun as yet?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Rs. 6·77 lakhs.

(b) No; the fabrication of structural steel work is well in hand.

RAILWAY AGENCIES IN RAJASTHAN

636. Shri Bheekha Bhai: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of out agencies to be opened during the year 1953-54 in Rajasthan;

(b) whether representations from the public and a proposal from the concerned Managers have been received; and

(c) whether the people of Dungarpur District have demanded the establishment of Railway Out-Agency?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Proposals for the opening of out-agencies at Tonk, Begun, Sheoganj, Sumerpur, Dungarpur, Shahpura, and Padampur are being examined by the Railway Administrations in consultation with the local civil authorities.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

FIRE IN RAILWAY COLONY AT GAUHATI

637. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a fire which broke out on the 29th January, 1953 and the 2nd February, 1953, in the Railway colony at Gauhati?

(b) What is the number of Railway workers and their families that have been rendered homeless?

(c) What arrangements have been made for their accommodation?

(d) What steps are being taken to compensate the sufferers for the loss of their belongings?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) 130 railway workers and a total of 510 individuals, including their families, were affected by the fires on 29th January and 2nd February 1953.

(c) All affected were immediately provided with shelter in the Railway Institute, Railway School and part of the Assistant Engineer's Office. 50 unserviceable wagons were arranged for from Katihar for providing them with temporary accommodation. The question of constructing permanent accommodation is under examination.

(d) Blankets, utensils and week's free rations were given for immediate relief. One month's advance pay was sanctioned to staff affected by the fires. Clothing for children was arranged and the local authorities also supplied milk and some cloth. Claims for compensation for loss of personal property will be considered in accordance with the rules and regulations.

SHEEP-WOOL

638. Shri Buchhikotaiah: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any attempts are being made in India to prepare good variety of sheep-wool; and

(b) if so, the places where it is being manufactured?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes. The I.C.A.R. has been financing in conjunction with State Governments a regional scheme for sheep and wool development in well-known wool producing areas in India. The aim is to produce rams and ewes which would produce finer quality fleece and higher yield of wool.

(b) (i) *Temperate Himalayan Region.*—The Regional Station is located at Pipalkote in U.P. Hills with a fleece-testing laboratory at Kalsi in Dehra Dun district. Two sub-stations at Banihal Farm in Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh.

(ii) *Dry Northern Region.*—Main Station in Rajasthan, with a sub-centre in Joria (Bombay State).

(iii) *Southern Region.*—The main station with a wool research laboratory has been established in Poona and two sub-centres, one in Mysore and the other in Nilgiris (Madras).

(iv) *Eastern Region.*—Main Station in Bihar with a sub-station in Kalimpong (Darjeeling). (To be started this year).

U. N. I. C. E. F. (RELIEF AND HEALTH PROGRAMMES)

639. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state the approximate amount of money spent so far by the U.N.I.C.E.F. toward the various relief and health programmes in India?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): A statement containing the necessary information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 38]. This information was also furnished in reply to

Dr. Rama Rao's Starred Question No. 33 on the 14th February, 1953.

TUBE-WELLS

640. Shri B. K. Das: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the sums allocated during the year 1952 to different States for tube-well schemes for the purpose of irrigation;

(b) the amounts paid from the Technical Co-operation Agreement fund and from the minor irrigation schemes fund of rupees ten crores; and

(c) the number of tube-wells sunk by the respective States during the year 1952?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The following amounts of loan were sanctioned during 1952 to the Governments of U.P., Bihar and Punjab for the construction of 965 tubewells under their contract with M/s. Associated Tube-wells Ltd., and to the Government of Bombay for the construction of 400 tubewells under their contract with M/s. National Tubewells Ltd.

U.P.—Rs. 67·5 lakhs.

Bihar—Rs. 45·74 lakhs.

Punjab—Rs. 18·74 lakhs.

Bombay—Rs. 40 lakhs.

(b) So far about 1·3 million dollars have been paid from the Technical Co-operation Agreement fund for the 2000 tubewells programme in U.P., Punjab, Bihar and Pepsu. From the Minor Irrigation scheme fund of Rs. 10 crores, a sum of Rs. 41·53 lakhs has so far been advanced as loan to U.P.

(c) The 2000 T.C.A. Tubewells Scheme has just started. The number of tubewells sunk during 1952 in U.P., Bihar, Punjab, and Bombay under the Schemes mentioned in (a) above is as follows:—

U.P.—190.

Bihar—105.

Punjab—118.

Bombay—18.

TAMLUK SUB-POST OFFICE (TELEPHONE CONNECTION)

641. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) when telephone connection was installed in the Tamluk Sub-Post Office (West Bengal);

(b) whether public gets the benefit of using the telephone;

(c) whether it is a fact that the telephone line goes out of order every now and then;

(d) if so, what steps Government are taking to set it right; and

(e) whether Government propose to extend telephone connections to private parties in Tamluk town?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 29th September 1952.

(b) Yes.

(c) No. However, in the last week of October and the first week of November 1952, there were four faults mostly caused by insulators being mischievously broken.

(d) The matter has been brought to the notice of local police authorities.

(e) There has been no demand from private parties so far. If about twenty-five applications are forthcoming, the proposal for opening an exchange will be considered.

ADULT CIVILIAN TRAINING SCHEME

642. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons that are undergoing technical and vocational training under the Adult Civilian Training Scheme on the 31st December, 1952;

(b) how many persons are undergoing technical and vocational training under the Displaced Persons Training Scheme on the same date; and

(c) how many displaced persons are undergoing training as apprentices at present and in which States?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) 7999.

(b) 2433.

(c) 375 in Uttar Pradesh and 320 in West Bengal.

AMENITIES FOR THIRD CLASS PASSENGERS

643. Shri M. L. Dwivedi: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the amenities and facilities which have been introduced in the Railways since 1947;

(b) what are the additional facilities given to third class passengers as compared with those that existed before 1947; and

(c) what are the improvements contemplated under the First Five Year

Plan for the benefit and comfort of the third class passengers?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House indicating the amenities and facilities that have been introduced on Railways since 1947. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 39].

(c) It is intended to continue spending Rs. 3 crores on passenger amenities every year during the period of the first 5-year plan. The actual details of works were up till now being determined in consultation with the Amenities Sub Committee of the local Advisory Committees, and they will in future be determined in consultation with the Users Committees that are being brought into existence.

SESAMUM PRODUCTION

644. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the acreage of land under sesamum production has marked any increase in the year 1952-53 over the previous figures;

(b) if so, what was the increased acreage of land; and

(c) whether production has also increased?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, by about 0·4 per cent.

(b) About 21,000 acres.

(c) Yes, by 10,000 tons.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESSES

645. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether facility exists for registering abbreviated telegraphic addresses in Devanagari script as it is done in English; and

(b) if so, whether the rates of registration are the same as in English?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. If, however, the same abbreviated address is registered in both English and Devanagari, the extra charge for the Devanagari registration is only one-fourth of the normal charges.

INDIGENOUS MEDICAL HERBS

646. Shri Jajware: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state whether Government have taken up the survey work of indigenous medical herbs which exist all over the country, as recommended by the Chopra Committee.

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 40].

RAILWAY LANDS

647. Shri Nambiar: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the procedure of leasing out of 'A' class lands to Railwaymen has been changed recently and if so, why;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Revenue officials are auctioning these lands to the detriment of the right of occupancy of the Railwaymen who were enjoying it for long periods; and

(c) whether representations have been received against this recent change and if so, what action has been taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) There has been no recent change in the procedure obtaining from 1942-43.

(b) The leasing of temporary surplus Railway land handed over by Railways to the State Governments to individual cultivators is being done in some cases by Revenue officials through public notifications and auctions. No occupancy rights were conferred on or are now acquired by either Railway servants or other cultivators in such cases.

(c) In view of the reply to part (a), the question does not arise.

BOMBAY BOUND PASSENGERS FOR KUTCH MANDVI

648. Shri Gidwani: (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state whether it is a fact that a number of Bombay-bound passengers for Kutch Mandvi intending to board Saraswati Steamer were carried away five miles into the sea by the country crafts due to poor visibility, owing to stormy weather in the 1st week of January, 1953?

(b) Is it a fact that the property of the passengers worth about Rs. 75,000/- was lost in the incident?

(c) Is it a fact that the representations have been made to Government to provide safety measures for preventing such incidents and enabling sea passengers to embark vessels in

the stream during the stormy weather?

(d) If so, what steps have been taken by Government in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes; on the 6th January two boats carrying passengers from shore to steamer drifted into the open sea due to poor visibility and sudden stormy weather. They were, however, towed back to safety without any loss of life.

(b) It is reported that some 50 to 60 packages of personal baggage were jettisoned. The value of the property so lost is not known.

(c) Yes.

(d) The Kutch Minor Ports (Passenger Vessels) Rules providing for the licensing of such boats after inspection as regards their sea-worthiness and for the maintenance of adequate safety appliances are expected to be issued shortly. In the meanwhile, to cover the interim period, the Chief Commissioner for Kutch is issuing administrative instructions for the licensing, checking up the sea-worthiness, capacity, etc. of these boats and for control of traffic by the Water Police. It is also proposed to purchase and station a launch at Mandvi for rendering help in stormy weather.

CLASSIFICATION OF RAILWAY MATERIALS

649. Shri Nambiar: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether it is the Stores Officer who classifies Railway materials at Perambur as unserviceable or whether there is a Board consisting of the Stores Officer, the Mechanical Officer and the Audit Officer to consider which items are to be condemned or not?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): A standing survey committee consisting of a Stores Officer, an Officer from each of the Mechanical, Electrical, Engineering and Accounts Departments decides which items should be scrapped.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF CROPS AND SOILS WING

650. Shri Chinaria: (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state how far the recommendations of the Crops and Soils Wing meeting of March, 1952 in so **far as they relate to Central Government** have been implemented?

(b) Has the mechanisation of farming been reviewed and if so, by whom and with what conclusions?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VI, annexure No. 41].

(b) "Mechanisation of Agriculture in so far as the use of tractors is concerned" was one of the subjects discussed at the Crops and Soils Wing Meeting held at Indore in 1952. Action taken on the various recommendations on this subject made at that meeting is included in the statement referred to at (a) above.

GOODS CARRIED BY INDIAN SHIPPING COMPANIES

651. Shri C. R. Iyyunni: Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state what is the percentage of goods (cargoes) carried by the Indian Shipping Companies along the Indian Coast and the percentage by the Foreign Companies?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): During 1952 Indian shipping companies carried about 96 per cent. of the cargoes moving on the Indian coast and the remaining 4 per cent. were carried by foreign shipping companies. In 1953 so far, Indian companies have carried more than 99½ per cent. of the coastal trade.

SUB-POST OFFICES IN DELHI

652. Shri Gidwani: (a) Will the Minister of **Communications** be pleased to state what is the total number of Sub-Post Offices in Delhi?

(b) Is it a fact that a large number of them have unsatisfactory premises?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 86, including 50 in New Delhi.

(b) In 24 offices the present accommodation is not considered adequate. Necessary action to improve matters either by construction of departmental buildings or renting suitable buildings has been taken.

BONUS TO CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA EMPLOYEES

653. Shri Tushar Chatterjea: Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Bank of India has effected a cut in the bonus paid to its employees and if so, what was the usual rate of bonus and what is the extent of the cut made;

(b) whether Government are aware that the employees are agitated by this cut; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take in order to secure the restoration of the cut in the bonus rate?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) While in recent years the Bank has been paying a bonus equivalent to three months' salary, it has reduced the bonus for the year 1952 to two months' salary.

(b) Government have received representations on behalf of the employees of the Bank.

(c) The whole question is under consideration.

MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES

654. Shri Ramananda Das: (a) Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state whether Municipal employees such as sweepers, scavengers, etc., come under the Indian Trade Union Act and Indian Trade Dispute Act and other labour laws of the country?

(b) Is it a fact that in many States these categories of Municipal labourers are excluded from the scope of Trade Union Act and other labour laws and they do not get the facility of Labour Act and Labour Welfare measures of the Government of India?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) and (b). Municipal employees such as sweepers and scavengers come under the purview of the Indian Trade Unions Act, the Industrial Disputes Act and the Minimum Wages Act. Other labour laws such as Mines Act, Factories Act are applicable only to special classes of workers. Government have no information if the Municipal employees of these categories are denied the benefits of the provisions of Labour Acts. Information is being collected from State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

ACQUISITION OF LAND IN TRIPURA

655. Shri Biren Dutt: (a) Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state how much private land has been acquired by the Government of Tripura or requisitioned for constructing Teliamura-Khoai, Khoai-Kazachera and Udaipur-Agartala Roads?

(b) What compensation has been given to peasants who have been evicted from these lands?

(c) If the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, when do Government propose to give that compensation and at what rate?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Excepting a short strip of land just requisitioned for the Khowai-Kalacherra road, only 80·76 acres of land have recently been acquired for the Khowai-Taliamura road. The Udaipur-Agartala road was constructed long ago and no land has been acquired recently for it.

(b) Nothing so far.

(c) Payment of compensation will be made after the rate of compensation is fixed by the Land Acquisition Court.

MINOR IRRIGATION WORKS

656. Shri Janardhan Reddy: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount granted towards minor irrigations in various States of India, by the Central Government in 1952-53; and

(b) the amount granted to the Hyderabad State in 1952-53.

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) A loan of Rs. 910·38 lakhs and a grant of Rs. 203·13 lakhs.

(b) A loan of Rs. 79 lakhs.

REQUIREMENTS OF STORES IN CONNECTION WITH RAILWAY CENTENARY EXHIBITION

657. Shri U. S. Dube: (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether the Northern Railways issue a fortnightly bulletin of their requirements of purchases, etc.?

(b) If so, did they mention their requirements in respect of the paints required for Railway Centenary Exhibition?

(c) Is it a fact that paints worth rupees forty thousand have been purchased from the Anglo Dutch Paint Works without calling for any tenders or making a mention of the requirement in any of the bulletins?

(d) If the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons for departure from the ordinary practice of calling for tenders?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes, by Bulletins and by limited tenders in cases of urgency.

(b) No, as the requirements were urgent.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

AIR-CONDITIONED RAILWAY COACHES

658. **Dr. Amin:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state what is the cost of an Air-conditioned Passenger Coach manufactured in India?

(b) How many of such coaches have so far been manufactured?

(c) Are any other types of passenger coaches manufactured in India and if so, the total number of such coaches manufactured so far and the cost of manufacture of each type of such coaches?

(d) What is the percentage of the total cost of each type of coach which is spent on parts of indigenous manufacture?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Broad Gauge—Rs. 2,71,000.

Metre Gauge—Rs. 2,22,000.

(b) 16 were in service on 31st March 1951. 29 have since been placed on line making a total of 45, all of which have been manufactured in India.

(c) Yes. Various types of coaches are manufactured in Railway Workshops and their cost differs from type to type and the year of construction. The present day estimated prices of some representative types are:—

Bogie Second Class—	
Broad Gauge—Rs.	1,47,000.
Metre Gauge—Rs.	1,02,000.
Bogie Third Class—	
Broad Gauge—Rs.	1,17,000.
Metre Gauge—Rs.	90,000.

Information regarding the total numbers of coaches of all types placed in service from year to year is given in Chapter VI of Volume I of the Railway Board's Report on Indian Railways, copies of which are available in the Library of the House.

(d) About 90 per cent. of the cost of coaches built in Railway workshops is spent on parts of indigenous manufacture.

RICE SUPPLIED TO HYDERABAD

659. **Shri H. G. Vaishnav:** (a) Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total quantity of rice imported into Hyderabad State and the total quantity of rice produced in the State in the year 1952?

(b) What are the requirements of rice in that State during the year 1953 and how much quantity will be supplied by the Centre?

(c) Is the Hyderabad State self-sufficient as regards other food-stuffs?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) 18,000 and 460,000 tons respectively.

(b) A quota of 20,000 tons of rice for Hyderabad for 1953 has been provisionally fixed, against 40,000 tons they have asked for; the Centre will try to meet this demand.

(c) Yes.

RAILWAY CLAIMS

660. **Shri H. G. Vaishnav:** (a) Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the total number of claims together with value thereof submitted to the Claims Section regarding the loss of goods in transit incurred on the metre-gauge system of Railways in Hyderabad State during the year 1952?

(b) How many of these claims together with value thereof had been decided in the year 1952 and how many cases are still pending?

(c) Has the number of claims increased or decreased in the said year in comparison with the year 1951 and if so, to what extent?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The total number of claims received during the year 1952 was 1803, their value being Rs. 3,16,547.

(b) The number of claims settled during the year 1952 was 1704 and the amount was Rs. 2,30,300. The number of claims outstanding at the end of the year 1952 was 99.

(c) The number of claims received during 1952 has increased by 143 as compared with that of the previous year.

PILFERING OF MATERIALS FROM RAILWAY WORKSHOPS AT KALKA AND JAGADHRI

661. **Prof. D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the value of materials pilfered from the Railway Workshops at Kalka and Jagadhri during the year 1952, and

(b) the steps Government have taken to prevent such pilferings?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Kalka Workshop—Rs. 250.

Jagadhri Workshop—Nil.

(Materials pilfered have since been recovered).

(b) Pickets at all the workshop gates have been strengthened.

FOREST LABOURERS' SOCIETIES IN BOMBAY

662. **Shri Natawadkar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Forest Labourers' Societies working for the welfare of *Adivasis* in Bombay State have been given priority for supply of railway wagons; and

(b) if so, what steps, if any, Government have taken to supply wagons in time to the said societies?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No preferential treatment has been given to any particular society for the movement of this traffic on the Central Railway, but from stations on the Western Railway this traffic being sponsored by the Bombay Government is moved preferentially within the quotas allotted to timber booking sections.

(b) Only demands for special type of stock have not been met in full due to paucity of such stock. Every endeavour is being made to step up supply of special type stock.

चारा

६६३. **सेठ गोविन्द दास** : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) चारे के उत्पादन में सन् १९५२ में लगी समस्त भूमी का एकड़ों में क्षेत्रफल ;

(ख) क्या यह गत वर्षों की तुलना में कम था ; तथा

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस के कारण ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) to (c). The information asked for is being collected from the States and will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

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THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE
Friday, 20th March, 1953

The House met at Two of the Clock
[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
(See Part I)

3-4 P.M.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS
DEMAND NO. 17—MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEMAND NO. 18—ARCHAEOLOGY
DEMAND NO. 19—OTHER SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENTS
DEMAND NO. 20—EDUCATION
DEMAND NO. 21—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEMAND NO. 115—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Further discussion will proceed on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Education.

ملسٹر آف ایجوکیشن ایںڈ ذدچرل

ریسورسز ایںڈ سائنٹیفک ریسرچ

(مولٹا آزاد) : جناب پچھلے پانچ برسوں میں جب کبھی بجٹ کی بحث کا موقع آیا ہے تو ہاؤس کے دوستوں نے ایک خاص ڈھنگ اختیار کیا ہے - وہ محسوس کرتے تھے کہ تعلیم کا معاملہ ایک نہایت اہم معاملہ ہے - اس لئے اس پر بحث ضرور ہونی چاہیئے - پھر سب سے زیادہ صاف بات جو ان کے سامنے

آتی تھی وہ یہ تھی کہ ملک میں جہالت پھیلی ہوئی ہے بیس پرسنٹ سے زیادہ لٹریسی (literacy) نہیں ہے - ایسی حالت میں زیادہ سے زیادہ تعلیم کا کام ہونا چاہیئے اور تیزی کے ساتھ تعلیم کو پھیلانا چاہیئے - اس لئے یہ بھی ایک ضروری چیز ہو گئی تھی کہ ہر سال اس چیز کو دوہرایا جائے - لیکن ملک میں اگر تعلیم زیادہ تیزی کے ساتھ پھیلانی ہے تو اس کا سامان کہاں سے آئے - اس پر غور کرنے کی ضرورت نہیں سمجھی جاتی - میرا بھی یہ کام ہو گیا تھا کہ میں ہر سال گورنمنٹ کی مشکلوں کو دوہراتا تھا اور یہ کہتا تھا کہ اسکیمیں موجود ہیں - گورنمنٹ کی طرف سے کوئی کمی نہیں ہے لیکن جب تک سامان نہ ہو ہمارے قدم تیزی کے ساتھ آگے نہیں بڑھ سکتے - مجھے خوشی ہے کہ اس سال میرے دوستوں نے وہ ڈھنگ اختیار نہیں کیا - شاید پچھلے برس جو میں نے ان سے لہجہ کی تھی یہ اس کا اثر ہے کہ جو کل میں نے دیکھا - میں نے

[مولانا آزاد]

اور کمپلسری (compulsory) کر سکتے ہیں - چنانچہ آپ کو معلوم ہے کہ پوری پوری تیزی کے ساتھ اس کمیٹی نے کام کیا اور ایک برس کے بعد رپورٹ پیش کی - اگر فائنینشل ڈفیکلٹیز ہمارا راستہ نہ روکتیں اور ہم روپیہ کا انتظام کر سکتے تو ظاہر ہے کہ اس چار برس کے اندر تعلیم کا معاملہ کہیں سے کہیں پہنچ جاتا - کیونکہ کھیر کمیٹی کی سفارش - آپ کو معلوم ہے کہ یہ تھی ۱۷ برس کے اندر ہم کو بیسک ایجوکیشن کر دینی چاہیئے - دس برس کے اندر جونیر بیسک ایجوکیشن اور پھر سات برس سینیر بیسک ایجوکیشن کے لئے رکھے گئے تھے- اور نقشہ یہ بنایا گیا تھا کہ تیس فیصدی رقم سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کو دینی چاہیئے اور ۷۰ فیصدی اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹس کو - لیکن دقت یہ پیش آئی کہ ہم اس روپیہ کا انتظام نہیں کر سکے - اگر ہم اس روپیہ کا انتظام کر سکتے تو جہاں تک سینٹرل گورنمنٹ کا تعلق ہے دو کروڑ سے اس کا کوٹا شروع ہوتا اور پھر ۱۷ ویں برس ۲۵ کروڑ تک پہنچتا - اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹس کا کوٹا ایک ارب سے کچھ زیادہ پڑ جاتا - لیکن اس روپیہ کا انتظام نہیں ہو سکا اور نتیجہ یہ ہے کہ وہ اسکیمیں آگے نہیں بڑھائی جا سکیں - تو میں اپنے دوستوں کو یقین دلاؤں کا انہیں توجہ دلائی تھی کہ اس بارے میں اتنا غیر منطقی - الوجیکل (Illogical) نہیں ہونا چاہیئے -

بہر حال کل بحث کے دوران میں چند باتوں کی طرف جو بعض دوستوں نے اشارہ کیا ہے ان کے متعلق میں مختصر طور پر چند باتیں کہونگا -

اس چیز پر توجہ دلائی گئی کہ اگرچہ تعلیم اسٹیٹ سبجیکٹ ہے مگر سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کی بھی اس بارے میں ذمہداری ہے اور سنٹرل گورنمنٹ یہ کہہ کر کہ یہ اسٹیٹ سبجیکٹ ہے اپنی ذمہداری سے بری نہیں ہو جا سکتی - یہ بالکل صحیح ہے - مجھے اس سے پورا اتفاق ہے - اور اگر گورنمنٹ کو اس سے اتفاق نہ ہوتا تو یہ ظاہر ہے کہ پچھلے چار پانچ برس کے اندر وہ قدم نہ اٹھائے جاتے کہ جو گورنمنٹ نے اٹھائے ہیں - آپ یقیناً باخبر نہ ہوں گے کہ میں نے ایجوکیشن منسٹری کا چارج لیتے ہی پہلا کام یہ کیا تھا کہ ابتدائی تعلیم کے لئے کھیر کمیٹی بٹھائی تھی - کھیر کمیٹی اس لئے بٹھائی گئی تھی کہ جہاں تک ابتدائی تعلیم کا تعلق ہے وہ پورے میدان کا سروے کرے اور اس کے بعد بتلائے کہ کم سے کم زمانے میں کس طرح ہم ابتدائی تعلیم کو یونیورسل

میں گورنمنٹ پنجاب کو مبارکباد دونگا کہ اس نے جو اصلی سوال تھا اس پر غور کیا - سوال صرف یہ نہیں تھا کہ ٹیچروں کی کیا تنخواہ ہونی چاہیئے - سوال یہ تھا کہ آجکل کی حالت کو دیکھتے ہوئے مینیمم سیلری (minimum salary) کیا ہونی چاہیئے - کوئی ہو - ٹیچر ہو یا پٹواری ہو یا کانسٹیبل ہو کوئی ہو - آجکل کی حالت کو دیکھتے ہوئے کم سے کم تنخواہ کیا ہونی چاہیئے - اس کا کوئی درجہ مقرر کرنا چاہیئے - میں پنجاب گورنمنٹ کو مبارکباد دونگا کہ اس نے اس سال کا بجٹ پیش کرتے ہوئے ایک نہایت قیمتی قدم اٹھایا ہے - اور یہ انتظام کیا ہے کہ آیندہ بھسک پے اور ڈیئرنیس الاؤنس (Dearness allowance) ملا کر پنجاب میں کم سے کم تنخواہ جو ہر ملازم کو ملیگی وہ ۷۷ روپئے ہو گی - ۷۷ روپئے سے کم نہیں ہو گی - بہر حال یہ ایک بہت اچھا قدم ہے جو کہ اٹھایا گیا ہے - لیکن ظاہر ہے کہ اس معاملے کا تعلق اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹ سے ہے اور اس بارے میں ہم مجبور ہیں -

اسی طرح اس چیز پر توجہ دلائی گئی ہے کہ کانسٹی ٹیوشن میں یہ لکھا گیا ہے کہ دس برس کے اندر تمام ملک میں ابتدائی تعلیم کو عام اور جبریہ کر دیا جائیگا -

اس کے متعلق کہا ہو رہا ہے - معلوم ہے کہ اس کے متعلق ابھی کہ جہاں تک سینٹرل گورنمنٹ کا تعلق ہے گورنمنٹ بدھیہ نہیں ہے وہ یہ سمجھتی ہے کہ اس کی ذمہ داری ہے - لیکن ظاہر ہے کہ قدم جبھی اٹھایا جا سکتا ہے جب کہ سامان ہو - لیکن جہاں تک ان سوالوں کا تعلق ہے کہ جو تمام اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹوں سے تعلق رکھتے ہیں - مثلاً بعض دوستوں نے ٹیچروں کی تنخواہ کا ذکر کیا کہ ٹیچروں کو جو تنخواہ مل رہی ہے وہ بہت کم ہے اور اس کا انتظام ہونا چاہیئے - ٹھیک ہے انتظام ہونا چاہیئے - اور جہاں تک سینٹرل گورنمنٹ کا تعلق ہے سینٹرل گورنمنٹ نے ایک دن کی بھی تاخیر نہیں کی ہے - آپ کو معلوم ہے کہ سنہ ۱۹۴۸ء میں سینٹرل گورنمنٹ نے دلی اور اجمیر میں وہ تنخواہ منظور کر لی کہ جس کی سفارش پے کمیشن نے کی - جو اس وقت کسی صوبے میں بھی نہیں دی جا رہی ہے - لیکن یہ معاملہ ایسا ہے کہ اس کا تعلق اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹس سے ہے - اس بارے میں ہم کچھ نہیں کر سکتے - بعض دوستوں نے کہا کہ سینٹرل گورنمنٹ کو ڈائریکشن دینا چاہیئے - ہم ڈائریکشن نہیں دے سکتے - کانسٹی ٹیوشن ہم کو اس کی اجازت نہیں دیتا - ہاں ہم مشورہ دیتے ہیں اور ہم مشورہ دے رہے ہیں اور بعض گورنمنٹوں نے اس پر توجہ کی ہے -

[مولانا آزاد]

چاهیئے - آپ کو معلوم ہے پانچ برس کی مدت جو سنہ ۵۰ سے شروع ہوتی ہے تقریباً ڈھائی برس اس کے چلے گئے تھے اور اب پریکٹیکلی تین برس باقی رہ گئے ہیں کہ جس کے اندر ہمیں اپنا یہ نقشہ پورا کرنا ہے - مجھے یہ خوشی ہے کہ ہم نے اس میں تقریباً ۱۰ کروڑ روپیہ سالانہ رکھا ہے - یہ ۱۰ کروڑ روپیہ سالانہ کی رقم جو مجموعی طور پر ۲۵ کروڑ کی ہو جاتی ہے ہم آئندہ تین برس کے اندر صرف کرینگے - یہ ظاہر ہے کہ ہم پہلے دن سے ۱۰ کروڑ روپیہ خرچ نہیں کر سکتے - کیونکہ ہمیں نئی بنیادیں اٹھانی ہیں - نئی دیواریں اٹھانی ہیں - وہ جوں جوں اٹھتی جاویں گی اور اونچی ہوتی جائینگی اس کے مطابق روپیہ خرچ کیا جائیگا- لیکن ہم آئندہ سال سے قدم اٹھا رہے ہیں اور ہمیں امید ہے کہ آئندہ سال ہم اسے اور آگے بڑھاویں گے اور پھر تیسرے سال وہ اپنے پورے درجے تک آ جائے گا - جو پلاننگ اس کے بارے میں کی گئی ہے وہ آپ کے سامنے آ گئی ہے - اس کی کوشش کی گئی ہے کہ تعلیم کے تینوں حصوں کو سامنے رکھا جائے - ابتدائی تعلیم کو بھی، سیکنڈری ایجوکیشن کو بھی اور یونیورسٹی ایجوکیشن کو بھی - اور ان سب میں جہاں تک ہم مدد دے سکتے ہیں دیں -

تک کوئی ایسا قدم نہیں اٹھا ہے کہ ہم یہ امید کر سکیں کہ ۱۰ برس کے اندر یہ کام پورا ہو چکے - لیکن ظاہر ہے کہ مشکلوں نے ہمارا راستہ روکا ہوا ہے اور جب تک وہ مشکلیں دور نہیں ہو سکتیں اس وقت تک کچھ نہیں ہو سکتا - اور میں آپ سے صاف کہوں کہ جہاں تک سینٹرل گورنمنٹ کا تعلق ہے جب تک کہ ایسا وقت نہ آئے کہ ہم ڈیفیسٹ پر جو روپیہ خرچ کر رہے ہیں - اور جو فی الحقیقت ٹوٹل بجٹ کی آدھی رقم لے لیتا ہے - جب تک اس کو کم نہیں کرتے تب تک اس کے لئے روپیہ نہیں نکال سکتے - ناممکن ہے - اب کس وقت ہم اس بارے میں قابل ہونگے نہیں کہہ سکتے - لیکن جہاں تک سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کا تعلق ہے اس کے ہاتھ پاؤں بندھے ہوئے ہیں - لیکن ان حالت میں بھی ہمیں دیکھنا ہے کہ جو قدم ہم نے اس وقت اٹھائے ہیں ان کی نوعیت کیا ہے اور وہ ہم کو کس رخ پر لے جا رہے ہیں - پچھلے سال آپ کو یاد ہو گا کہ میں نے آپ کو توجہ دلائی تھی کہ جہاں تک پلاننگ کمیشن کا تعلق ہے اس چیز پر ہم غور کر رہے ہیں کہ تعلیم کے لئے کتنا روپیہ رکھا جائے - میں نے آپ سے کہا تھا کہ ہماری یہ کوشش ہے کہ کم سے کم ۱۰ کروڑ روپیہ سالانہ ہمیں رکھنا

کی رپورٹ نکل چکی ہے - تین برس گذر چکے ہیں - اس میں جو سفارشیں کی گئی ہیں ان کی بڑی تعداد ایسی ہے کہ جس کا تعلق یونیورسٹیوں سے ہے اور اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹوں سے ہے - لیکن اس وقت تک کچھ بھی نہیں ہوا - سنٹرل گورنمنٹ نے یونیورسٹیوں کو بھی توجہ دلائی - اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹوں کو بھی توجہ دلائی - لیکن کوئی عملی نتیجہ نہیں نکلا - تو خیال یہ تھا کہ ایک ایجنسی ہمیں بنانی چاہیئے - اگر ہم چاہیں تو گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا ڈائریکٹ اپنا ہاتھ اس میں رکھ سکتی تھی کیونکہ کانسٹی ٹیوشن نے اس کو کوآرڈینیشن (coordination) اور اسٹینڈرڈ (standard) کی نگرانی کا موقع دیا ہے - لیکن ہم نے یہ پسند نہیں کیا - ہم نے مناسب یہ سمجھا کہ ایک ایسی ایجنسی بنائی جائے کہ جو انڈیپنڈنٹ (independent) ہو - گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا کا ڈائریکٹ اس میں ہاتھ نہ ہو - ملک میں جو مانے ہوئے ایجوکیشن کے نمائندے ہیں یونیورسٹیوں کے نمائندے ہیں ان کو رکھیں - پارلیمنٹ اڈوائز پاور دے اور اس پاور کو وہ خاص شرطوں کے ماتحت جس میں ایک کے بعد ایک کریاں ہیں کام میں لائیں - چنانچہ یہ بل تیار ہوا اور یونیورسٹیوں کو اور اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹوں کو بھیجا گیا - آپ جو اخبارات دیکھتے رہتے

جہاں تک یونیورسٹی ایجوکیشن کا تعلق ہے آپ کو معلوم ہے کہ کانسٹی ٹیوشن نے سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کا ہاتھ بھی اس میں رکھا ہے - اس لئے کہ کانسٹی ٹیوشن یہ کہتا ہے کہ جہاں تک یونیورسٹی ایجوکیشن کا تعلق ہے اس کا کوآرڈینیشن (coordination) اور اس کے اسٹینڈرڈ (standard) کی نگرانی - ان میں سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کا ہاتھ ہونا چاہیئے - یونیورسٹی ایجوکیشن کے لئے آجکل ہر طرف کہا جاتا ہے کہ تعلیم گر گئی ہے اور روز بروز گرتی جاتی ہے اور کوئی نہ کوئی قدم اٹھانا چاہیئے کہ جو اس گرتی ہوئی دیوار کو سنبھالے - یہ ٹھیک ہے - لیکن کس طرح سے سنبھالا جائے - آپ کو معلوم ہے کہ میں نے گذشتہ سال آپ سے کہا تھا کہ گورنمنٹ ایک بل پارلیمنٹ کے آگے رکھنا چاہتی ہے - گورنمنٹ نے اس معاملہ پر غور کیا - معلوم ہوا کہ جب تک کہ کوئی ایجنسی ایسی نہیں بنائی کہ جس کے ذریعہ سے یونیورسٹی ایجوکیشن کو سنبھالا جائے اور جو اس میں خرابیاں آ گئی ہیں ان کو دور کیا جائے اور جو نئے رفارم ہونے چاہیئے وہ عمل میں لائے جائیں اس وقت تک محض یونیورسٹیوں کو توجہ دلانے سے یا اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹوں کو توجہ دلانے سے کوئی نتیجہ نہیں نکلتا - یونیورسٹی ایجوکیشن کمیشن

[مولانا آزاد]

ہے ملک کے اندر - یہ ہم کو مدد دیگی کتابوں کے لئے اور ریسرچ انسٹی ٹیوٹس کے مختلف سامان وغیرہ کے لئے - ظاہر ہے کہ یونیورسٹیوں کو اس کی بہت ضرورت ہے - تقریباً ۱۰ برس سے یونیورسٹیوں کی ترقی رکی ہوئی ہے لڑائی کے زمانے سے - تو خیال ہے کہ یہ ڈھائی کروڑ کی رقم یونیورسٹیوں میں تقسیم کی جائے گی - اس کے متعلق گفتگو ہو رہی ہے - لیکن اس کے علاوہ بھی ہم نے پانچ برس کے پلاننگ کے سلسلہ میں مختلف رقمیں رکھی ہیں - یہ رقمیں ابتدائی تعلیم کے لئے دی جائیں گی اور یونیورسٹیوں کے لئے بھی دی جائیں گی - اس کے علاوہ جو کامیونٹی پراجیکٹ ہیں آپ کو معلوم ہے کہ ان میں تعلیم بھی ہے - اس طرح کے ہم نے نقشے بنائے ہیں کہ ایک مکمل نمونہ پیدا کیا جائے کہ جس میں بیسک اسکول ہو - جونیر اور سینیئر اور سیکنڈری اسکول ہو اور جہاں کالج ہو - ہم خط و کتابت کر رہے ہیں کہ یونیورسٹی کمیشن کی سفارش کے مطابق ایک نمونہ کی یونیورسٹی بھی قائم کی جائے دیہاتی یونیورسٹی - لیکن کس روپ میں وہ قائم کی جائے اور کیسی ہو اس کے متعلق ہم غور کر رہے ہیں اور ہمیں امید ہے کہ اس ۱۸ اپریل کی کانفرنس میں ہم اس بارے میں اس سے باخبر نہ ہوں گے کہ اس کے متعلق مخالفت کی آوازیں اٹھائی گئیں - بہرحال میں اس وقت تفصیل میں نہیں جاؤں گا - ۱۸ اپریل کو ہم نے ایک کانفرنس بلائی ہے یونیورسٹیوں کے وائس چانسلروں کی اور اسٹیٹ گورنمنٹوں کے ایجوکیشن منسٹروں کی - اس کانفرنس میں ہم اس معاملہ پر بحث کرنے والے ہیں اور بحث کرنے کے بعد ایک آخری فیصلہ تک پہنچیں گے - بہر حال ہم نے یہ محسوس کیا کہ کسی نہ کسی شکل میں جب تک ایک ایجنسی ایسی نہیں بنتی کہ جو یونیورسٹی ایجوکیشن کی دیکھ بھال کرے اس وقت تک جو خرابیاں سالہا سال سے پیدا ہو چکی ہیں اور اب انتہائی درجہ تک پہنچ چکی ہیں وہ دور نہیں ہو سکتیں - تو جہاں تک یونیورسٹی ایجوکیشن کا تعلق ہے ہم یہ کر رہے ہیں -

آپ کو یہ معلوم ہے کہ ہم نے گیہوں کی ایک خاص مقدار امریکہ سے لی اور یہ بات طے پائی تھی کہ اس کے سود کی جو رقم ہو گی وہ ہندوستان کی یونیورسٹیوں کی تعلیم میں خرچ کی جائے گی - چنانچہ تقریباً یہ رقم اب ڈھائی کروڑ کی ہو رہی ہے - چونکہ یہ رقم ہوگی ڈالر کی شکل میں اس لئے یہ ان کاموں میں نہیں خرچ کی جا سکتی کہ جن کو روپیہ کے ذریعہ سے حل کیا جا سکتا

بطور نمونہ کے کہ تجربہ کر کے دیکھیں - جب ہمیں اس میں کامیابی ہوئی اور ہم نے دیکھا کہ کافی کامیابی ہوئی ہے تو ہم نے اس رقم کو بڑھایا - وہ تین لاکھ کی رقم آپ کو معلوم ہے کہ اب بڑھتے بڑھتے چالیس لاکھ تک پہنچ چکی ہے ان تین برسوں کے اندر -

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज (शोलापुर—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियां) संख्या बढ़ रही है, तादाद बढ़ रही है ।

مولانا آزاد : نہیں - معاف کیجئے گا - آپ دیکھتے ہیں کہ تین برس کے اندر وہ تین لاکھ کی رقم بڑھکر چالیس لاکھ ہو گئی ہے - مردم شماری چاہے کتنی تیزی سے آپ کی دوڑے مگر وہ اس کی گورپا گو نہیں پا سکتی - اس سے ظاہر ہے کہ جہاں تک گورنمنٹ کا تعلق ہے وہ اس سے بے خبر نہیں ہے - وہ اپنا فرض ادا کر رہی ہے اور سچی بات تو یہ ہے کہ ہم سب لوگ اپنے دل میں اس بات کو محسوس کرتے ہیں کہ جہاں تک ان پچھڑے ہوئے بھائیوں کا تعلق ہے سوسائٹی نے ان پر ایک ظلم کیا سیکڑوں برس تک ایک گناہ کیا اور یہ سوسائٹی کا فرض ہے کہ وہ اس کا کفارہ دے اور پرائسچت کرے اور وہ کفارہ یہ ہے کہ جتنی تیزی کے ساتھ ہم ان گرے ہوئے بھائیوں کو اوپر اٹھا سکتے ہیں ان کو اٹھانے کی کوشش کریں -

میں بھی مشورہ کر سکیں گے - تو بہر حال یہ کل ۳۴ کروڑ کی رقم رکھی گئی ہے اور اس کو ہم آئیندہ تین برس کے اندر خرچ کرنے والے ہیں - اس کے ذریعہ سے ہمیں خوشی ہے کہ ہمارے قدم جس چال سے چل رہے ہیں اب اس سے زیادہ تیز ہو گئے ہیں -

اب میں چند الفاظ آپ سے شڈولڈ کاسٹ اسکالرشپ کی نسبت بھی کہنا چاہتا ہوں - کل بعض دوستوں نے اس کا ذکر کرتے ہوئے اس پر توجہ دلائی کہ گورنمنٹ کو اس بارے میں اور قدم اٹھانے چاہئیں - آپ کو یہ معلوم ہے کہ جس وقت نیشنل گورنمنٹ نے چارج لیا ہے سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کا تو جہاں تک شڈولڈ کاسٹ کی تعلیم کا تعلق ہے اور اسکالرشپ کا تعلق ہے تیں لاکھ سالانہ سے زیادہ رقم نہیں تھی - دو سال کے اندر اس کی مدت ختم ہوئی - اس وقت کوئی ڈپوٹیشن میرے پاس نہیں آیا - کسی نے مجھ سے درخواست نہیں کی کہ پیسہ بڑھایا جائے - ہم نے خود محسوس کیا کہ یہ ہمارا فرض ہے کہ اس تین لاکھ کی رقم کو ہم بڑھائیں - اس وقت تک شڈولڈ ٹرائبس کے لئے ایک پیسہ نہیں تھا - یہ چیز بھی بڑھائی گئی - ابتدا میں اس کے لئے صرف پچاس ہزار روپیہ رکھا گیا تھا

ان کا عام طور پر گورنمینٹوں دوارا میلنجمنٹ پر جو روپیہ خرچ کیا جاتا ہے اس کے بارے میں ان کا کیا اندازہ ہے - اور کیا مناسبت ہے ہندوستان میں مختلف اسٹیٹ گورنمینٹوں سنٹرل گورنمنٹ کی مختلف شاخیں جو خرچ کر رہی ہیں ان کی آپس میں کیا مناسبت ہے - میں آپ کو یقین دلانا چاہتا ہوں کہ ایجوکیشن منسٹری کم سے کم اسٹاف رکھے ہوئے ہے جو اور جتنا بوجھ وہ اٹھائے ہوئے ہے - وہ بوجھ اٹھانے کی آخیر ہی ہے اور یہ بات میں آپ کے سامنے پوری ذمہداری کے ساتھ کہہ سکتا ہوں - سنہ ۴۹ میں جب کہ ایجوکیشن کا خرچ تین کروڑ سے زیادہ نہیں تھا اس وقت جتنا اسٹاف تھا آج جب کہ ایجوکیشن منسٹری کا خرچ سات سے آٹھ کروڑ تک پہنچ چکا ہے اور کام بیحد پھیل گیا ہے لیکن باوجود اس کے اسٹاف میں بہت تھوڑا اضافہ ہوا - آج سوال یہ نہیں ہے کہ اسٹاف کم کیا جائے بلکہ میں صاف صاف آپ سے کہونگا کہ ضرورت یہ ہے کہ اسٹاف اور بڑھایا جائے اگر ہم چاہتے ہیں کام کرنے سے ہو - ایجوکیشن منسٹری جو خرچ کر رہی ہے اس کی مناسبت کیا ہے - آپ جانتے کہ ہم دو یا ۲٠۷ پرسینٹ سے ہم زیادہ نہیں خرچ کر رہے ہیں - آپ کو یہ بھی معلوم ہونا چاہئے کہ

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: Excuse me for one minute. I would like to ask a question.

مولانا آزاد : میرے دوست نے ایک چیز پر توجہ دلائی تھی کہ دہلی یونیورسٹی میں فیس معاف نہیں کی جاتی - جہاں تک فیس کا تعلق ہے ظاہر ہے یونیورسٹی ایجوکیشن میں معافی کا سوال پیدا نہیں ہوا - نہ صرف دہلی یونیورسٹی میں بلکہ اور دوسری یونیورسٹیوں میں بھی یہ بات نہیں ہے - لیکن بہرحال اس چیز پر بھی گورنمنٹ کی نظر ہے اور گورنمنٹ اس پر غور کر رہی ہے اور گورنمنٹ دیکھیگی کہ جہاں تک یونیورسٹی کا تعلق ہے اس بارے میں کیا کیا جا سکتا ہے -

میں اب چند ایک لفظ ان کٹ موشنس کے متعلق بھی کہہ دینا چاہتا ہوں جو یہاں پیش کئے گئے - اگرچہ ان پر بحث نہیں ہوئی لیکن اگر میں ان کے بارے میں آپ کو بتلاؤں تو اس سے آپ کو معلوم ہو جائیگا کہ جو کٹ موشنس پیش کئے گئے تھے ان کی تہ میں کیا چیزیں تھیں -

ایک کٹ موشن اس بات کے لئے پیش کیا گیا کہ ایجوکیشن منسٹری کا جو خرچہ ہے منسٹری کے اسٹیبلشمنٹ کا وہ بہت زیادہ ہے - مجھے نہیں معلوم کہ جن صاحب نے اس کو پیش کرنا چاہا

ملیگا جب وہ کورس پورا کرنے کے بعد کم از کم ایک برس تک وہ اس کی پریکٹیکل تعلیم حاصل نہ کر لیں اور وہ بھی کسی ریکگنائزڈ کلسرن میں - اگر ایک برس تک انہوں نے وہاں پریکٹیکل قابلیت پیدا کر لی تب ان کو ڈپلومہ دیا جائیگا - میں نے دریافت کیا کہ سنہ ۴۸ میں کتنے اسٹوڈینٹس تھے معلوم ہوا کہ دس تھے - دس میں سے چار کے متعلق تو معلوم ہوا کہ انہوں نے اپنی پریکٹیکل تعلیم حاصل کر لی اور ان کو ڈپلومہ دے دیا گیا - ۶ کے متعلق ابھی تک جواب نہیں آیا لیکن یہ ظاہر ہے کہ ان ۶ کو بھی اگر انہوں نے پریکٹیکل تعلیم ایک برس کی پوری کر لی ہوگی تو ڈپلومہ مل گیا ہوگا - لیکن اگر انہوں نے نہیں پوری کی ہوگی تو نہیں ملا ہوگا - اس لئے یہ چیز کہ انہوں نے اپنا کورس سنہ ۴۸ میں پورا کر لیا اور ان کو ڈپلومہ نہیں ملا - میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ اس کے لئے کٹ موشن پیش کرنا کچھ مناسب اور ٹھیک نہیں ہے -

اس چیز پر بھی توجہ دلائی گئی ہے کہ کرناٹک اور بعض بعض مقامات میں کچھ پرانی چیزیں ہیں یادگار کی چیزیں ہیں اور آرکیالاجیکل ڈپارٹمینٹ ان کی حفاظت نہیں کرتا - مجھے نہیں معلوم اس کی بنیاد کیا ہے - آپ کو یہ معلوم ہے ہندوستان کے باہر کی گورنمینٹیں ہم سے کہیں زیادہ خرچ کر رہی ہیں - وہ چار سے سات فیصدی تک اسٹیبلشمینٹس پر خرچ کر رہی ہیں - اس اعتبار سے ہم ۲۰۷ فیصدی جو خرچ کر رہے ہیں وہ کم سے کم خرچ ہے جو ایجوکیشن منسٹری اسٹیبلشمینٹ پر خرچ کر رہی ہے اور آپ دیکھینگے کہ یہ کم از کم خرچہ ممکن ہے جو ہماری ایجوکیشن منسٹری اسٹیبلشمینٹ پر خرچ کر رہی ہے - مجھے تعجب ہے کہ اس چیز کو کٹ موشن کی بنیاد بنائی جائے -

ایک اور کٹ موشن کے ذریعہ اس چیز پر توجہ دلائی گئی تھی کہ کامرس اور بزنیس کا جو ڈپلومہ کورس ہے سنہ ۴۸ میں جن لوگوں نے پاس کیا تھا ان کو ڈپلومہ نہیں دیا گیا - مجھے نہیں معلوم کہ جنہوں نے یہ پیش کیا ہے انہوں نے یہ معلوم کرنے کی بھی زحمت گوارا کی تھی کہ اس بارے میں آل انڈیا کاونسل آف ٹیکنیکل ایجوکیشن نے جو قاعدہ بنایا ہے وہ کیا ہے - اگر وہ معلوم کرنا چاہتے تو ان کو معلوم ہو جاتا کہ اس طرح کے سوال کی کوئی گنجائش نہیں ہے - آل انڈیا کاونسل کا جو نیا قاعدہ بنایا ہے وہ یہ ہے کہ کسی انسٹیٹیوٹ کے لئے صرف اپنا کورس پاس کر لینا ہی کافی نہیں ہوگا اور ڈپلومہ ان کو تب

[مولانا آزاد]

بھاشا ہوگی اس وقت سے سینٹرل گورنمنٹ نے پوری کوشش شروع کر دی ہے اور ایک خاص سیکشن اس کے لئے منسٹری میں بنایا گیا ہے جسکا کام صرف یہ ہے کہ ہندی کو کیسے بڑھایا جائے اور خاص کر جو نان ہندی اسپیکنگ ایریاز ہیں ان میں کیسے اس کام کو آگے بڑھایا جائے اور وہاں اس کے راستہ میں جو مشکلیں پیش آتی ہیں ان کو کیسے دور کیا جائے - اسی کام کے واسطے ہم نے ایک خاص سیکشن بنایا ہے اور اس کے ذمہدار آفیسرس ہیں جو چوبیسوں گھنٹے اس کام میں مصروف رہتے ہیں - اس کے علاوہ منسٹری نے محسوس کیا کہ ہندی کے بارے میں سب سے زیادہ اہم کام دو ہیں - پہلی چیز تو ہے سائنٹفک اور ٹیکنیکل ٹرمس کی - جب تک اس معاملے کو آپ حل نہیں کر لیتے اس وقت تک آگے بڑھنے کے لئے دروازہ بند ہے اور آپ آگے بڑھ نہیں سکتے - جہاں تک تعلیم کا تعلق ہے آپ کو معلوم ہے کہ ایک بورڈ اس کام کے لئے بٹھایا گیا ہے اور وہ نہایت تیزی کے ساتھ کام کر رہا ہے -

دوسرا اہم کام جیسا میں نے آپ کو بتلایا یہی ہے کہ ملک کے ایسے صوبے اور پرانت جہاں کی مادری زبان ہندی نہیں ہے وہاں پر کیوں کہ آرکی لاجیکل ڈپارٹمنٹ سینٹرل گورنمنٹ میں صرف ان سائٹس اور عمارتوں کو لیتا ہے جن کو پارلیمنٹ نیشنل امپارٹینس کا خیال کرتی ہے - اس کے لئے ایک ایکٹ بھی پاس ہو چکا ہے اور اس کے ذریعہ بہت سی عمارتوں کو ہم لے چکے ہیں - جہاں تک کرناٹک کا تعلق ہے ۵۱۵ جگہیں سینٹر کا آرکی لاجیکل ڈپارٹمینٹ اپنی حفاظت میں لے چکا ہے - مالابار کی ۷ جگہیں اور مہاراشٹر کی ۵۵۱ جگہہ لے چکا ہے اور دروازہ کھلا ہوا ہے اور جتنی بھی اہمیت کی جگہیں ہمارے سامنے آئینگی ہم ان کو شامل کر لینگے - اس کے علاوہ اسٹیٹ گورنمینٹیں بھی ہیں - ان کے بھی اپنے اپنے آرکی لاجیکل ڈپارٹمنٹس ہیں اور بہت سی جگہیں ان کے انتظام میں ہیں - یہ تمام جگہیں جو لی گئی ہیں ان کی پوری حفاظت کی جاتی ہے اور لاکھوں روپیہ ان پر خرچ ہوتا ہے -

بعض دوستوں نے اس پر توجہ دلائی کہ ہندی زبان پڑھنے کے بارے میں سینٹرل گورنمنٹ کو زیادہ کوشش کرنی چاہئے - ان کو معلوم ہے کہ سینٹرل گورنمنٹ جس وقت سے کہ ہمارا کانسٹی ٹیوشن منظور ہوا اور یہ بات طے ہو گئی کہ ہندوستان کی سرکاری اور قومی زبان ہندی

میں - ویسٹ کی زبانوں میں اور ساؤتھ کی چار پانچ زبانوں کے علاوہ مراٹھی - بنگالی اور گجراتی زبانوں کی تعلیم حاصل کریں گے اور اس میں ہی پرافیشنسی امتحان دینگے - ان کو اسکالرشپ دیا جائے گا - ہم چاہتے ہیں، کہ ابھی تو یہ چار سینٹرل یونیورسٹیوں میں ہی کیا گیا ہے لیکن ملک کی دوسری یونیورسٹیوں میں بھی یہ کام ہونا چاہئے اور ہم نے ان کو توجہ دلائی ہے کہ وہ بھی اس طرح کا اسکالرشپ قائم کریں تاکہ ساؤتھ کی زبانیں بھی زیادہ سے زیادہ جتنی بڑھ سکتی ہیں اتنی بڑھیں -

بہرحال اب میں آپ کا زیادہ وقت نہیں لونگا - ہم پر ایک نازک وقت گذر رہا ہے - ہر قوم کے لئے سب سے زیادہ نازک وقت وہ ہوتا ہے جب وہ نئے سرے سے اپنی قومی زندگی تعمیر کرنا چاہتی ہے - اس منزل سے ہم گذر رہے ہیں - ایک طرف ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ تعلیم کا انتظام ہونا چاہئے ہیلتھ اور دوسرے جو ویلفیئر کے سبجیکٹ ہیں ان کا انتظام ہونا چاہئے - ساتھ ہی ہم چاہتے ہیں کہ جب تک ہماری آمدنی نہیں بڑھتی - ان چیزوں کا انتظام نہیں ہو سکتا - آمدنی کیونکر بڑھ سکتی ہے - جب تک دوسرے تعمیری کاموں پر خرچ نہ کیا جائے - اگر دوسرے کاموں پر خرچ کیا جاتا ہے تو

کر ہندی کا پرچار کیا جائے - چنانچہ اس کے لئے بھی سینٹرل گورنمنٹ پوری تیزی کے ساتھ کوشش کر رہی ہے اور آپ کو معلوم ہے کہ ۱۴ لاکھ روپیہ اس غرض سے رکھا گیا ہے اور وہ ہم اس کام میں آئندہ تین سال میں خرچ کرینگے - اس کے علاوہ یہ بھی کوشش کی گئی ہے کہ گورنمنٹ آف انڈیا میں جو جونیئر سروس میں ہیں ان کی تعلیم کا انتظام کیا جائے - اور ان کے لئے خاص اسکول کھول دیا گیا ہے اور اس میں روز بروز تعداد بڑھتی جاتی ہے -

یہ چیز بھی محسوس کی گئی کہ ہمیں کوئی نہ کوئی قدم ایسا اٹھانا چاہئے کہ ہمارے ساؤتھ کے جو بھائی ہیں وہ یہ محسوس نہ کریں کہ اس کی تو کوشش کی جاتی ہے کہ وہ ہندی سیکھیں لیکن ان کی جو زبانیں ہیں ان کو سیکھنے کی کوشش نہیں کی جاتی - میں یہ سمجھتا ہوں کہ اگر وہ ایسا خیال کریں تو کچھ حد تک حق بجانب ہے - ساؤتھ کے جو لوگ ہیں جن کی مادری زبان ہندی ہے انہیں بھی چاہئے کہ وہ ساؤتھ کی زبانوں میں دلچسپی لیں - بنگالی میں لیں - مہاراشٹری میں لیں - چنانچہ ہم نے ایک تجویز منظور کر لی ہے اور وہ تجویز یہ ہے کہ جو چار سینٹرل یونیورسٹیاں ہیں ان میں جو اسٹوڈنٹس ہیں جن کی مادری زبان ہندی ہے وہ ساؤتھ کی زبانوں

[مولانا آزاد]

تعلیم اور ہیلتھ کے لئے روپیہ نہیں نکلتا - تو یہ ایک عجیب الجھاؤ پیدا ہو گیا ہے لیکن کسی نہ کسی طرح پر ہمیں اس پر غالب آنا چاہئے - اور میں اطمینان کے ساتھ کہہ سکتا ہوں کہ اگرچہ ہم اس میدان میں دوڑ نہیں سکے ہیں - لیکن ہماری چال سست بھی نہیں ہے - ہم تیزی سے آگے بڑھ رہے ہیں -

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज: मैं एक सवाल पूछना चाहता हूं .....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order, please.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज: बहुत छोटा सा सवाल है ....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have asked the hon. Member to resume his seat.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज: मैं बैठने के लिए तैयार हूं, लेकिन .....

कुछ माननीय सदस्य: नहीं, नहीं, आप बैठ जाइये .....

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज: यह मेरी इन्सल्ट है ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज: माननीय मंत्री ने अपने भाषण में मेरे समाज के लिए कुछ नहीं कहा । उन्होंने प्रामिज किया था । डिप्टी स्पीकर महोदय मैं आप के द्वारा कहना चाहता हूं कि एजूकेशन मिनिस्ट्री हमारे लिए जो कुछ कर रही है वह ठीक है, मैं नहीं कहता कि वह कुछ नहीं करती है, लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि हम लोगों के लिए जो फारेन स्कालरशिप थे वह बन्द कर दिये गए, दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि कम्पलसरी एजूकेशन होनी चाहिए और तीसरा सजेश्चन यह है कि जो जम्मू और कश्मीर के शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट हैं उनको कोई स्कालरशिप नहीं मिलता है । उन्हें महाराज के जमाने से दस हजार रुपया मिलता रहा है, लेकिन शेख अब्दुल्ला की गवर्नमेंट ने बन्द कर दिया है । मैं प्रार्थना करता हूं कि इस स्कालरशिप के रुपये में से थोड़े से स्कालरशिप वहां के शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट स्टूडेन्ट्स को जरूर दिए जाएं ।

مولانا آزاد: جناب - جہاں تک فارین اسکالرشپ کا سوال ہے گورنمنٹ کا اس سے کوئی تعلق نہیں ہے - جو بورڈ اس کام کے لئے گورنمنٹ قائم کرتی ہے وہ خود شیڈولڈ کاسٹ کے نمائندوں کا ہوتا ہے - اس بورڈ نے فیصلہ کیا کہ کمیونٹی کا زیادہ فائدہ اس میں ہے کہ بجائے اس کے کہ بڑی بڑی رقمیں باہر کی تعلیم پر خرچ کی جائیں یہاں ہی دس بارہ اسکالرشپ دئے جائیں - لیکن چونکہ اب تین برس گذر چکے ہیں - اب یہ چیز گورنمنٹ کے سامنے آئی ہے - اور گورنمنٹ نے اس چیز کو بورڈ کے آگے پیش کر دیا ہے بورڈ اس پر غور کر رہا ہے اور امید ہے کہ وہ اس بارے میں جلدی فیصلہ کریگا -

جہاں تک کشمیر کا تعلق ہے ظاہر ہے کہ یہ معاملہ یہاں کی گورنمنٹ کے ماتحت میں نہیں ہے و لیکن گورنمنٹ کشمیر کو ہم اس بارے میں

توجہ دلائیں گے کہ جو کچھ وہ کر سکتی ہو وہ کرے -

(*English translation of the above speech*)

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): Sir, whenever there was any debate on the Budget in these past five years, the Members of the House adopted a special attitude. They felt that the matter of education was an important one, and so a debate should definitely be held. The most glaring thing that would come up before them was that there was countrywide illiteracy, literacy being not more than twenty per cent., and the dissemination of education, as such, shoud be maximum and speedy. This was the reason why the necessity was felt for revising the item on education every year. But nobody understood the necessity to consider the provision for a speedy dissemination of education in the Country. This had fallen to my lot to repeat the difficulties of the Government every year, and I would say that the Government had not slackened as the schemes were there. But unless we had the provision for this, we could not proceed forward in this direction. And now I am glad to see that my colleagues did not adopt that very attitude this year. Maybe, the appeal made by me to them last year bore the fruit. And this is what I conclude from yesterday's proceedings. I had, in fact, drawn their attention to the fact that they should not be so illogical in this matter.

Some of my colleagues, however, pointed to certain things yesterday during the debate, and I shall say in brief something regarding those.

It was brought to our attention that the Central Government was responsible for education although that was a State subject, and that the Central Government could not be free from this responsibility by saying that education was a State subject. Quite correct! I fully agree with what has ben said. It is clear that the Government would not have taken any steps in the past five years for the dissemination of education if it did not agree with this view. You will certainly be in the know of the fact that when I took over the portfolio of education, I appointed the Kher Committee for investigation into basic education. The function of that Committee was to make a full survey of basic education and to suggest the ways and means for making this basic education universal and compulsory within the shortest period. And you know that the Committee functioned with full speed and submitted a report after a year. It is evident that there would have been much progress in the dissemination of education during the four years had not the financial difficulties hurdled our way. As you know the Kher Committee recommended that there should be countrywide basic education in a span of 17 years, junior basic education in ten years and therein they also fixed a period of seven years for Senior basic education. They proposed that 30 per cent. expenses should be borne by the Central Government and 70 per cent. by the State Governments. The main obstacle in our way was that finances could not be arranged by us. Could the arrangements be made, the Central Government would have started with a contribution of 2 crores which would swell to 25 crores in 17 years' time. The State Governments in this case would have to contribute more than an *arab* of rupees in this direction. As the money could not be arranged, the schemes could not be furthered. I would, therefore, like to convince my colleagues that the Central Government are not ignorant of these developments and that they fully understand this responsibility of theirs. Evident as it is, schemes can then only be given a practical shape when there are finances. Such questions, however, as mentioned by some colleagues that teachers are getting very low pays, concern the State Governments, and it is quite correct that those should be taken up by them, but so far as the Central Government are concerned, not even a day's delay has been made in considering such questions. You are aware that in 1948 the Central Government sanctioned for Delhi and Ajmer that very scale of salary which was recommended by the Pay Commission and which is not paid in any province at present. But such a case does not concern State Governments; and we can do nothing in this respect. Some friends said that the Central Government be given the directions. Well, we cannot give directions: Constitution does not allow us to do so. Yes, we make a suggestion and here we are suggesting. Some Governments have, no doubt, paid their attention to it. I congratulate the Punjab Government for the consideration they gave to the genuine question. The question was as to what should be the minimum salary in the present circumstances, and not the salary that should be given to the teachers. Considering the present circumstances some minimum limit of the salary should be fixed for a teacher, patwari or a constable. I would like to congratulate the Punjab Govern-

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ment for the valuable step taken by them while presenting their this year's budget, and also for the arrangements they made for Punjab by fixing for future the minimum salary at no less than Rs. 77 per month which includes dearness allowance etc., besides the basic pay. This has, however, been a very good step, but it is apparent that it concerns the State Governments and we have been of no help to them.

Likewise, attention has been drawn to the commitments in the Constitution that basic education shall be made common and compulsory in ten years' time throughout the Country.

What has been done about it? Do you know that no step has been taken so far in this direction which would make us hope that this work would be completed in 10 years' time? But it is apparent that difficulties stand in our way and unless those difficulties are over, nothing can be done. I would like to make it clear to you that unless the Central Government curtail the expenditure incurred on defence, no more provision can be made for education; and to tell you the truth the expenditure on defence carries away half the amount of budget. Nothing can be said when such time comes, but I may assure you that the Central Government is duty-bound and cannot do otherwise. Even in these circumstances we have to see where our steps will carry us. You might be remembering that last year I drew your attention to the fact that the Planning Commission was considering the amount to be spent on education. I also told you that at least 10 crores of rupees should be apportioned annually to the item of education, and I made efforts for it. You are aware that the scheme was started in 1950. About two and a half years have elapsed and about three years are practically left: we have to complete the scheme within these three years now. I am happy that we have apportioned 10 crores annually. These 10 crores per year mean 25 crores collectively for the three years to come. This is quite apparent that we are not in a position to spend 10 crores of rupees from the very first day as we have to lay new foundations, erect new superstructures, and gradually as the superstructure goes up the expenses will multiply. We are taking these steps from the next year and do hope to further the scheme then so that it comes up to the mark in the third year. Whatever has been planned in its respect is known to you. It has been attempted to go forward with all the three sections of education, *viz.*, basic, secondary and university education; and we shall give all the possible help we can.

You are aware that our Constitution has entrusted the responsibility of University education to the Central Government also, because it says that Central Government should be a party to the maintenance of standard and co-ordination of the University education. Today we hear people say that University education has deteriorated and the standard is coming down day by day. They say that some steps should be taken lest the whole structure of education should succumb. Quite fine; but how to do it? Do you know when I told you last year that the Government wanted to present a Bill before the House? The Government considered the matter, and arrived at the conclusion that nothing would come out of the attention paid by the Universities only or the State Governments unless an agency would come into being which would remove the drawbacks of University education, bring in new reforms, and implement new schemes. The report of the University Education Commission is out. Three years have elapsed. Most of the recommendations made in that report concern the Universities and the State Governments, but nothing has come out so far. The Central Government drew the attention of the Universities and the State Governments but nothing came out in practice. We, in fact, intended to make an agency for the purpose. If at all we wanted to get it implemented, the Government could have their hand in it because the Constitution provides them the opportunity of maintaining the standard and co-ordination, but we never liked the idea. We thought it proper that an independent agency be made so that there would be no direct hand of the Government of India in it; the recognised representatives of education in this country, the representatives of the Universities be asked to be the members of the agency and the Parliament would empower them to work under some conditions till the work would be over. The Bill was, however, formulated, and was sent to the Universities and the State Governments. You must have seen in the papers that there was a lot of opposition against the Bill. I do not want to go in detail at the moment. We are calling a conference of Vice-Chancellors of the Universities and Education Ministers of the States on 18th April, and are going to debate on this matter. We shall arrive at some decision after full discussions therein. We have, however, felt that the discrepancies and drawbacks of these Universities and education therein cannot go off unless an agency to look after education comes into being.

This is about the steps taken by the Government regarding the university education.

You are aware that we took on loan a certain amount of wheat from America and it was decided that the sum that would accumulate by way of interest on that amount would be spent on the Indian Universities. This amount has, however, gone upto two and a half crores of rupees; and since that will be in shape of dollars, that cannot be spent on education because this problem can only be solved with Indian rupee. This amount can, in fact, help us in purchasing books and apparatus for research institutes etc. Apparent as it is, we need these badly for the Universities. Progress of the varsities has stopped for the last ten years since the days of war; and it is intended to give away the amount of four and a half crores to the Indian Universities. Talks are going on about it at present. But even apart from all that we have apportioned different sums in this respect in our Five Year Plan. These sums will be given for basic education and to Universities. Besides these we have Community Projects which include education also. We have made plans for creating a complete model which will include basic school, junior, senior and secondary schools and a Janata College. These days we are in correspondence with them and want that a rural university be established in accordance with the recommendations of the University Commission. What will the shape of that University be and what type that will be, are the things under consideration. We, however, hope to have full discussions on it in the Conference scheduled on 18th April. So this amount of 34 crores has been left apart and shall be spent in the three years to come. We are happy that we have gained speed in our progress in this direction.

I want to say some words about the Scheduled Caste Scholarships as well. Yesterday some friends of mine here made a mention of these and drew the attention of the Government to the fact that some more steps need be taken in this direction. You are aware that at the time when the National Government took over the charge of the Central Government, there was a provision of not more than three lakhs of rupees for the education and scholarships of the Scheduled Castes. That period was over in two years, but no deputation came to me nor did anybody approach me for the increment in the amount. We ourselves felt it as our duty to increase that amount of three lakhs. There was not a single penny sanctioned till then for Scheduled Tribes. So this item, too, was added. A sum of fifty thousand rupees was reserved as token grant for carrying on an experiment in this direction. We made an observation and came to the conclusion that we were crowned with success, and we had, therefore, to increase the amount. This sanctioned amount of three lakhs gradually increased to 40 lakh in these three years.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज (शोलापुर—रक्षित—अनूसूचित जातियां) : संख्या बढ़ रही है, तादाद बढ़ रही है।

Maulana Azad: No, excuse me. You see that the amount went on increasing from 3 lakhs to 40 lakhs of rupees. Howsoever fast the figures of census move upwards, there cannot be anything otherwise. Apparent as it is, Government are not ignorant about it and are fulfilling their duties. The fact remains that all of us feel in our hearts that for centuries the society has sinned by being so very unkind and unjust to these backward brethren of ours; and now it is the bounden duty of our society to atone for what it has done to them by uplifting these down-trodden brethren as soon as it can be.

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: Excuse me for one minute. I would like to ask a question.

Maulana Azad: My friend drew our attention to the fact that Delhi University did not grant exemption of fees. Apparent as it is the question of exemption of fees does not arise in the education of Universities, be it of Delhi or of any other place. But, however, the Government have it in view and are considering the exemption of fees in Universities.

Now, I want to say a few words about the cut motions moved here. No debate was held, in fact, regarding those but I want to make it clear to you what actually was behind those cut motions.

There was a cut motion that the expenses on the establishment of the Education Ministry were very much. I do not know what actually the mover of the motion thought about the expenses incurred by the Governments on the management, nor do I know what he thought about the proportion between the expenses made by different State Governments and the different branches of the Central Government. I would like to convince you that the Ministry of Education maintains the least possible staff and can assure you with full responsibility that the burden shouldered by the Ministry of Education

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is more than its might. In 1949 the expenditure of the Ministry on the maintenance of the staff was not more than three crores and now when work has spread very much and the expenditure is seven to eight crores there has not been a proportionate increment in the staff. I would make it clear that today we need more staff for efficiency of work and lowering the strength of the staff, therefore, is out of the question. If you look at the expenses of the Ministry of Education, you will find that we are not spending more than 2 or 2.7 per cent., and you should know that the governments outside India are spending more comparatively. Those governments are spending four to seven per cent. on their establishments. In comparison to theirs our expenditure of 2.7 per cent. is the least amount incurred on the establishment. If you observe it keenly you will find it as the least expenditure incurred on the establishment. I wonder that such a point should have been made an issue for a cut motion.

Another cut motion drew our attention to this thing that the candidates who passed the Commerce and Diploma Course in 1948 were not given the diplomas. I don't know if the movers of the said cut motion took at all the trouble of seeing the ruling given by the All India Council of Technical Education. Had they only studied their proceedings, there would not have been any necessity to table this cut motion. This All India Council gave a new ruling that passing their own course would not suffice for the students and they would not be entitled to get the diploma unless they got practical education through an apprenticeship for a year at least in some recognised concern. I was informed that there were ten students in 1948, out of whom only four had had the practical experience and were given the diploma. Nothing has been said about the remaining six; and only if they had one year's experience they would have got the diploma, not otherwise. So I understand that moving a cut motion that the students who completed their course in 1948 did not get any diploma is improper and out of place.

Attention has also been drawn to the fact that the Archaeological Department does not look after the ancient relics in Karnatak and some other places. I do not know the basis of it. You know that the Archaeological Department of the Central Government takes into consideration for maintenance those buildings and sites only which are thought of national importance by the Parliament. An Act has also been passed for these under which many monuments have been taken over by us. About 515 monuments of Karnatak, seven archaeological places of Malabar and 515 monumental places of Maharashtra have been taken over by the Archaeological Department of the Central Government. We have not closed our doors as yet, but are prepared to accommodate as many places as are thought of national importance. Besides, States Governments have their own archaeological departments and the monumental places there are looked after by them. All these places taken over are looked after properly and lakhs of rupees are incurred as expenses on their maintenance.

Some friends drew our attention to the fact that the Central Government should make more efforts for propagating Hindi language. They know that the Central Government have started full efforts in this direction since the Constitution was passed wherein it was decided to have Hindi as the Official and National language of India. Also, a special section in the Ministry of Education has been deputed for this purpose, and its function is to see how Hindi can be propagated amongst the non-Hindi speaking areas, and how the difficulties be removed. This special section for the purpose of finding out ways and means has on role responsible officers who are busy with the work for all the twenty-four hours. Besides, the Ministry felt that two things were of the utmost importance regarding the propagation of Hindi. Firstly, coining scientific and technical terms—without which neither the problem could be solved nor would the avenues of progress open, and in the sphere of education a board has been set up since for this work which is functioning speedily.

Secondly, as I have already told you, ways and means are to be found out for propagating Hindi in the provinces where the mother language is not Hindi. The Central Government are, however, making efforts for this in a very speedy way. You should also know that 14 lakhs of rupees have been kept apart for this purpose and the amount will be spent in the three years to come. Besides this, efforts have also been made to make arrangements for imparting education to the employees of the Government of India who are in junior service. A special school has been opened for them, where their number is increasing day by day. This also was felt that steps should be taken for the propagation of the languages of

our South Indian brethren so that they do not feel that Hindi is pressed upon them while their languages are ignored. I understand they are justified to some extent if they think in that light. North Indian people with Hindi as their mother language should take interest in the languages of the South, and also in Bangla and Marathi. We have, however, approved the resolution that the students who read in the four Central varsities and have Hindi as their mother language shall also be imparted education in the South Indian languages, their State languages and in Marathi, Bangla and Gujrati, besides, and shall take proficiency examination in any of those languages, and shall also get scholarships. Such a procedure has so far started in the four Central Universities only, but we want this procedure to start in other Universities of the country. We have nevertheless, drawn their attention to this side and told them to introduce such scholarships so that the South Indian languages also have an opportunity to grow as much as they possibly can.

I shall not take much time of the House, but would like to bring home to you that we are passing through critical times. The most critical time for a nation is when it starts its life anew. We are actually passing through that very stage. On one hand we want to have arrangements made for education, health and other welfare subjects, and on the other hand we say that our income is static. Both the things cannot go side by side. Income is the problem; and unless some constructive things are done, there cannot be any source of income. And if expenditure is incurred on other things wherefrom will the money come for education and health., Actually speaking we are confronted with a dilemma, which we shall have to come over somehow or other. I would like to tell you convincingly that we are not lagging behind in the race of time. We are moving onwards.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : मैं एक सवाल पूछना चाहता हूं .....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order, please.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : बहुत छोटा सा सवाल है ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have asked the hon. Member to resume his seat.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : मैं बैठने के लिये तैयार हूं, लेकिन .....

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : नहीं नहीं, आप बैठ जाइये .....

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : यह मेरी इन्सल्ट है ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All right.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : माननीय मंत्री ने अपने भाषण में मेरे समाज के लिये कुछ नहीं कहा । उन्होंने प्रामिज किया था । डिप्टी स्पीकर महोदय, मैं आप के द्वारा कहना चाहता हूं कि एजुकेशन मिनिस्ट्री हमारे लिये जो कुछ कर रही है वह ठीक है, मैं नहीं कहता कि वह कुछ नहीं करती है, लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि हम लोगों के लिये जो फारेन स्कालर्शिप्स थे वह बन्द कर दिये गये, दूसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि कम्पल्सरी एजुकेशन होनी चाहिये और तीसरा सजेशन यह है कि जो जम्मू और काश्मीर के शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट हैं उन को कोई स्कालर्शिप नहीं मिलता है । उन्हें महाराज के जमाने से दस हजार रुप्या मिलता रहा है, लेकिन शेख़ अब्दुल्ला की गवर्नमेंट नें बन्द कर दिया है । मैं प्रार्थना करता हूं कि इस स्कालर्शिप के रुपये में से थोड़े से स्कालर्शिप वहां के शेड्यूल्ड कास्ट स्टूडेन्टस को ज़रूर दिये जायें ।

Maulana Azad: Sir, the Government are not concerned with the foreign scholarships. The board set up by the Government comprises the representatives of Scheduled Castes. The board decided that it would be in our interests to give ten or twelve scholarships in India instead of spending huge amounts on education in foreign countries. Three years have passed since and the thing has come up before the Government, and the Government have put it up before this board. They are considering this and it is hoped that a decision will be made by them very soon.

[Maulana Azad]

It is evident that this Government are not concerned with such problems in Kashmir, but we shall, however, draw the attention of Kashmir Government towards these so that they do their best in this direction.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now put to the House all the cut motions that have been moved.

The cut motions were negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown to the third column of the Order Paper in respect of Demands Nos. 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 115 be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of the corresponding heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof."

The motion was adopted.

[*The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the House are reproduced below.*—Ed. of P.P.]

DEMAND NO. 17—MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 30,41,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Ministry of Education'."

DEMAND NO. 18—ARCHAEOLOGY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 40,59,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Archaeology'."

DEMAND NO. 19—OTHER SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENTS

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,75,83,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Other Scientific Departments'."

DEMAND NO. 20—EDUCATION

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,47,39,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Education'."

DEMAND NO. 21—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 27,71,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Education'."

DEMAND NO. 115—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 5,50,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Education'."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will now proceed with the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Labour.

DEMAND NO. 65—MINISTRY OF LABOUR

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 26,78,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Ministry of Labour'."

DEMAND NO. 66—CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,16,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Chief Inspector of Mines'."

DEMAND NO. 67—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,91,42,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour'."

DEMAND NO. 68—EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND RESETTLEMENT

Mr. **Deputy-Speaker:** Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,24,50,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Employment Exchanges and Resettlement'."

DEMAND NO. 69—CIVIL DEFENCE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,10,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Civil Defence'."

DEMAND NO. 131—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion is:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,18,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Labour'."

Refusal of Supplies

Shri Vittal Rao (Khammam): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced to Re. 1."

Lack of uniform policy towards recognition of trade unions of employees of various Ministries of the Government of India

Dr. Lanka Sundaram (Visakhapatnam): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Inordinate delay in disposal of cases before Labour Tribunals

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri (Berhampore): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Lack of policy for protecting industrial workers from retrenchment

Shri Tushar Chatterjea (Serampore): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Low standard of living of labourers and failure to enforce the Minimum Wages Act

Shri Veeraswamy (Mayuram—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Necessity of reducing the number of hours of work for miners and other working underground from eight to six hours per day

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Serious shortage of houses for workers of coalmines at Singareni Collieries, Kothagudium and Bellampalli

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Lack of equity in granting annual leave with pay to different categories of workers working underground

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure is not printing important labour legislation in Indian languages

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Abolition of the Labour Appellate Tribunal

Shri Vital Rao: I beg to mvoe:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Absence of any procedure in recognising trade unions by employers—Government or private

Shri Nambiar (Mayuram): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Recognition to all trade unions in Government or private owned industries and in case of dispute ballot to be taken to determine the representative character

Shri Nambiar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Question of declaring 'Tuberculosis' as an industrial disease for coal-fields

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Amending Coal Mines Bonus Rules so that period of leave with pay be treated as attendance for purpose of computing qualifying period

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Serious threat of retrenchment in Oorgam Gold Company in Kolar Gold Fields

Shri Nambiar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Conditions in Kolar Gold Fields

Shri Frank Anthony (Nominated—Anglo-Indians): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Non-enforcement of the Minimum Wages Act in certain category of industries

Shri B. S. Murthy (Eluru): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Non-existence of suitable machinery to prevent periodical retrenchment in industrial labour

Shri B. S. Murthy: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Housing problem confronting the labour

Shri B. S. Murthy: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Lack of uniform policy in according recognition to trade unions of employees of various Ministries of Central Government

Shri B. S. Murthy: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Lack of interest in agricultural labour and enforcement of Minimum Wages Act for agricultural labour

Shri B. S. Murthy: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Inefficient functioning of Employees' State Insurance Corporation

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to enforce Employees' State Insurance Act in cities and States other than Kanpur and Delhi

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Serious shortage of housing accommodation at Hatti Gold Fields, Raichur, Hyderabad State

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to enforce Plantation Labour Act

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Low wages paid to workers of coal-fields

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Appointment of Canadian experts to enquire into frequent rock-bursts at Kolar Gold Fields

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Treatment accorded to patients at Singareni Collieries Company Hospital, Kothagudium

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Retrenchment and unsatisfactory treatment of employees of All India General Insurance Co. Bombay

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Refusal of payment of dearness allowance as per award to 1,400 employees by United Bank of India, Calcutta

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to secure living wages and reasonable and better conditions of work to agricultural labour

Shri Nanadas (Ongole—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Unsatisfactory way of handling the problem of labour

Shri Nanadas: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Refusal of Supplies

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Chief Inspector of Mines' be reduced to Re. 1."

Delay in constitution of Mines Board of Health at Kothagudium and Bellampalli coal mines

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Necessity for enlarging and re-organising Employment Exchanges

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair (Quilon cum Mavelikkara): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Employment Exchanges and Resettlement' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Enlarging and re-organising Employment Exchanges for reservation of vacancies to Scheduled Castes and other backward classes

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Employment Exchanges and Resettlement' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Unsatisfactory working of the Employment Exchanges

Shri Nambiar: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Employment Exchanges and Resettlement' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Closing down of Gorakhpur Labour Organisation

Shri Vittal Rao: I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Employment Exchanges and Resettlement' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All these Demands and the cut motions are now before the House for discussion.

Shri H. N. Shastri (Kanpur Distt.—Central): It is customary on an occasion like this to appreciate the work that has been done by the Ministry concerned. I wish I could follow the same practice; but I regret that I cannot pay my tributes to the hon. Minister and his other colleague without some mental reservations. There is no denying the fact that there can be no person more fitted than my old friend, Mr. V. V. Giri, to occupy the position of the Labour Minister of this country. He has had a life-long record of service in the cause of the working classes of this country and there is no person more conversant with the labour problems of this country than Mr. Giri. The same could equally apply to his other colleague, Mr. Abid Ali, who till recently was one of the important leaders of the trade union movement. And, I had the privilege of owning him as one of my colleagues in his capacity as Vice-President of the I.N.T.U.C. and I am rather sorry to have missed him from that position.

Coming now to the Secretariat level, I must say that the Labour Ministry is exceptionally fortunate in having amongst its Secretaries persons who are imbued with the true spirit of social service, who have made a mark for themselves in international assemblies and from the point of view of their attainments and high sense of public duty they stand second to none of their counterparts in any part of the world.

While I pay my compliments to my esteemed friends and the Ministry, as a whole, I shall be failing in my duty if I do not state very frankly that the labour situation in the country today is not free from anxiety, and that the Labour Ministry, in spite of its best intentions and efforts, have not succeeded in tackling the situation with firmness. In particular, the employment position in the country today is very disquieting. Only the other day the House was appraised of the serious crisis in the tea industry, where, on the one hand, the wages of the already low-paid workers have gone down by more than 25 per cent. and, on the other hand, more than 60,000 workers have been thrown out of employment and in the course of the last five or six weeks, several cases of starvation have been reported in this House and elsewhere also.

Now, almost a similar situation, though not so bad, persists in the jute industry. In spite of the emphatic denial of the Bengal Government, which was reported to this House by the hon. Minister the other day, that there have been no mass retrenchments in the jute industry, I emphatically assert that in the course of the last six months, even on a moderate estimate, there have been no less than ten thousand workers thrown out of employment in the jute industry.

The situation in the coal industry is also not very satisfactory. My grievance is that the Labour Ministry, or as a matter of fact the Government of India as a whole, in tackling the labour problem have pursued—to express a very mild term—a weak-kneed policy. More than a year ago a Development Council met in Delhi under the joint auspices of the Ministries of Labour and Industries and the Planning Commission, where this particular subject of rationalisation and retrenchment was particularly discussed and an agreement was arrived at between Government, labour and the employers, as a result of which a particular policy was enunciated, was adopted. In a nutshell that policy was that no productivity schemes involving large-scale unemployment should be followed, that where retrenchments were inevitable, the same should be done by mutual agreement between labour and capital and in failure of such agreement, the matter should be referred to adjudication, and thirdly where unemployment even then took place either alternative employment should be made available or unemployment benefits should be given to labour. I regret to say that although more than a year has elapsed, that scheme very well thought out indeed and which received the support of most of the labour organisations in this country, is still in the cold storage. It is my painful duty again to point out that the conciliation machinery, both at the Central level and in some of the States, though not in all, is not keeping pace with the times. A serious crisis is already brewing in the coal industry, where long-standing demands for adjudication have been denied. In some of the States elementary justice is denied on the plea that reference of disputes to adjudication is against the declared policy of the Central Government in regard to collective bargaining.

I would cite one interesting example here. There is the neighbouring province of the Punjab. It is an open secret that much of wire-pulling is going on there, where the capitalist elements have gained some effective voice through a particular Minister, who I am pained to say is more powerful than the Chief Minister himself. For about a year tribunals in the Punjab are not functioning and when the attention of the Government concerned is

drawn to this fact they say that reference of disputes to adjudication is against the policy that has been declared by the Government of India. Let me state here one thing. In all sincerity and in all frankness, I for one—and the organisation to which I have the privilege to belong too—do stand for collective bargaining as the ideal condition to regulate conditions of work in the industry. But at the same time at a moment when we are passing through a period of planned economic development and when the bargaining power of the workers since the war is today at its lowest ebb, an unfettered policy of collective bargaining is extremely detrimental to the interests of the workers and, if persisted in, it is going seriously to jeopardise the economic development of this country. I appeal to my old friend, Mr. Giri, the Labour Minister, to ponder over the situation. I have no doubt that he is second to none in this country in watching the interests of the workers and I implore him to ponder over the situation before it is too late.

Several points have been raised in the cut motions that have been moved by several hon. Members. Due to lack of time I will not go into them, but would leave them to some of my other colleagues. But there is just one point which I should like to mention. Some days back there was a two-day discussion on the Budget of the Ministry of External Affairs and the House almost unanimously paid glowing tributes to the hon. the Prime Minister for his foreign policy, that has so immensely raised the prestige of this country in the outside world. But I regret to say that while we have progressed so immensely in regard to our policy on foreign affairs, in the social field our country is not only average, but slightly below average. Our country is a member of the I.L.O. It sends delegations every year to the International Labour Conference and to its various committees. It has the unique privilege of having three members on the Governing Body of the I.L.O. But at the same time in the field of ratification its record is very poor. India is one of the eight highly industrialised countries, but our country stands not only the last out of these, but it is fifteenth in the matter of ratification of conventions and recommendations. Between 1948 and 1952, no less than 20 conventions on important subjects were adopted by the I.L.O. Now out of these 20 only two revised conventions —conventions that were already adopted, but were later on revised—were ratified by our Government; in addition to that only one other convention regarding labour inspection has been adopted by the Government of India. I happen not only to be a member of the Governing Body of the I.L.O., but I have to sit on an important committee known as the Committee on Standing Orders and Conventions and Recommendations, where these matters are scrutinised and the question of every country comes up for scrutiny and examination. Naturally when I have to sit there and the question of India comes, I feel very much embarrassed. I should say in this regard that if we are serious in our participation in the activities of the I.L.O. our country should acquit itself more creditably than she has been doing so far.

In conclusion let me say once again one word, that I am fully conscious of the earnest efforts and the solid contribution of my hon. friend Mr. Giri, his colleague, and the Ministry as a whole in tackling the affairs of the Department of Labour, but what in my opinion is really wanting is active policy, a sense of urgency and a realisation of the gravity of the situation.

Shri Vittal Rao: We are today discussing the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Labour at a time when we have been hearing everyday of so many thousands of workers being thrown out of their jobs. Whether it is the jute industry as was referred to just now by my predecessor, or the coal industry, or the textile industry, the fact remains that everywhere many thousands are being thrown out of their jobs. The tea industry is in a state of utter collapse, and twenty or twenty-five thousands have been thrown out of employment.

This is the position. And what is the role of the Ministry of Labour? If I referred to all these things in detail I am sure the hon. Minister in his reply will simply stand up and say: what can I do, labour is a Concurrent Subject, I can only advise the States, I cannot do more than that. So I would like to treat the subject of such industries for which the Central Government itself has got the entire responsibility. So I shall take the case of the coal industry. Only very recently I read an account of the speech of Mr. Michael More, President of the Indian Mining Association, threatening to close down the industry. He demanded an increase in price of coal. He said: if you do not give us an increase in price the industry will be affected. He has detailed so many things. Actually a threat has been given.

[Shri Vittal Rao]

Now, we will examine the conditions of the coal miners. I have a few figures here. It is said that the Singareni collieries have got the highest wages in India compared to any other colliery. And here what are the wages? The total wages including dearness allowance paid to the colliery workers there amount to Rs. 12·6 per week. In Raniganj it is Rs. 10·94; in Jharia Rs. 10·75; and in Madhya Pradesh rupees eight. The average in India is rupees ten. This is the weekly wage of a coal miner.

And what work is he supposed to do? He does one of the most hazardous and arduous duties. Considering the relatively hard work he puts in there has been a cry and a demand for the last several years that his working hours should be reduced to six hours a day as against eight. And for such a nature of work what is he paid? He is paid far below any industrial worker in India. The Mines Act was passed in 1952, that too after long agitation on the part of the workers. The then Minister of Labour thought it wise to amend the 1923 Act. But has he gone any step further? No.

Take the question of holidays. During one whole year he cannot get more than two holidays with pay. And this too is denied to many coal mine workers in India. Only very few workers get these two holidays with pay, that is, on August 15th and January 26th. In Hyderabad, the Committee which was appointed to go into the working conditions of the workers recommended that at least ten holidays with full pay should be given. But to this day it is not being implemented.

Then I come to the question of leave with pay. They get according to the Mines Act, because it is stipulated there, one week's leave with pay for a period of one full year. And there is no provision for sick leave with pay or any such thing.

This is their condition. And on top of all this what to we find now? Rationalisation is going on. They have appointed some industrial business consultants. They are making a study of the industry. That is called time study. If the point is that the workers should put in eight hours of work and put in their full effort, we agree there. But unless and until you improve their working conditions and concede their elementary demands like holidays with pay and leave with pay, etc., you cannot go into the other question. At least whatever is provided by the Factories Act could be given. Under the Factories Act fifteen holidays with pay and so many other concessions are given. But here for the coal miners this is being denied. I cannot understand why a distinction is made in respect of coal miners with regard to the operation of the Factories Act. A surface worker here gets only 1½ times over-time whereas under the Factories Act he gets twice.

I will turn now to their housing conditions. Only the other day in reply to a question the hon. Minister of Labour said that he has sanctioned about 2,000 houses for these workers. Today there are about three lakhs of coal miners. And at least nearly two lakhs of them need houses. They are all housed in huts. I think at the rate at which the Labour Minister is proceeding the coal miners will not have any houses at least for a hundred years more. I can tell you about the Singareni collieries. I have facts and figures for the last three years. During 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52 not a single house has been constructed. Only, due to very great pressure, they have sanctioned 180 houses. And 7,000 workers need houses. They are living in huts at present. If you provide houses at this rate it will take forty years more for all of them to get houses.

The Labour Welfare Fund is there. Today the Labour Welfare Fund is only a bank balance as regards housing. The rest of the money is being paid to the hospital and other things. And even there, the treatment of the in the Singareni Collieries hospital is most unsatisfactory.

Coming to the Madhya Pradesh coal mines, it is the worst I have ever seen. I do not know whether in other parts, like Talcher and others, the conditions are still worse. But the conditions I have seen in the Panch Valley coal mines and the Wardha Valley coal mines are most inhuman. Even their huts are so low and the conditions are the worst.

And then, even for ordinary trade union activity there is no possibility. You cannot enter into the colliery. The moment anybody starts organising trade union activity there is police intervention and externment. Even ordinary trade union activity in the Chanda Valley coal mines and Panch Valley coal mines is not possible.

Regarding the labour appellate tribunal I have to say a few words. This

labour appellate tribunal should be abolished. In 1952 the Shahabad Cement workers in Hyderabad State went on a forty-eight day's strike. At every stage we wanted to approach the management, but they refused. The matter was referred to the industrial tribunal there. And the industrial tribunal after six months gave an award that full wages should be paid, including dearness allowance, to the workers Now the management have referred the matter to the appellate tribunal. The strike was in January-February 1952 and now it is March 1953. It is one year. The delay is going against the worker.

4 P.M.

We have the Employees' State Insurance Act. It is implemented only in Delhi and Kanpur. Here also there is very inefficient and bureaucratic functioning. Much as I would like that the Act should be extended to other places, I must point out that the shortcomings and the improper functioning of this should be taken note of. For example I have got figures for Kanpur. The incidence of sickness among the industrial workers there is five per cent. Those people who go actually to the dispensaries—State Insurance employees, etc.—are 0·35 per cent. Moreover, this Act should be extended immediately to all the parts of the country. I need not go into the history of this. After a long agitation a Committee was appointed and it was, I remember, in 1945 and the present Minister of Labour was a delegate on behalf of the All-India Trade Union Congress. Legislation was done in 1948. We are now in 1953 and what are we seeing? It has been implemented only in two cities

I will now come to Plantation Labour Act. This Act has been enacted but it has not yet been enforced. The workers are not going to get heavens by this Act. It gives a little relief but even this has not been enforced.

I will now come to bank employees and insurance companies' employees. After a long agitation, a tribunal was appointed. That gave the award. The award gave them certain relief but what happened? Due to the judgment of the Supreme Court that could not be put into effect and another Committee has been appointed. One year is over and it is stated that the report has been submitted and the award has not yet been published.

I will now come to another aspect of the question. It is the Gorakhpur Labour Force. This Gorakhpur Labour Force has no justification at present because unemployment is there in all districts. What the hon. Mr. Jagjivan Ram said does not hold good now because in every State there is unemployment. Even in Singareni collieries today there are 2,000 workers who are out of employment due to the reactionary standing orders which have been brought into effect since 1951. I will just read to you what the then Minister of Labour said:

> "The Gorakhpur labour organisation was functioning during the war years. When I came I stopped that thing. Of course, we cannot prevent the employers from recruiting their own labour, but we thought that it would be better if the recruitment even by the employers is systematised and regulated by us. Today the agency of the Director-General of Resettlement and Employment is functioning in U.P. in this behalf and the U.P. Government very much insisted that the recruitment of Gorakhpur labour should not be stopped because it will create an unemployment problem for them and thereby a problem of law and order."

Today, even in Panch Valley mines, the unemployment problem is there where Gorakhpur force has been recruited. In Singareni collieries there are 1,500 workers belonging to the Gorakhpur Labour Force. I am not against anybody coming and working in any State. Let me not be misunderstood but I want them to be appointed permanently. We have removed the contract system. This is another sort of contract system. You recruit them only for a period of eleven months. Afterwards they are sent away. I do not know for what reasons. I met these people. Some say, "we are simply runaways. We want jobs". There is complete absence of trade unionism. The Minister may say, "you go and work there" but it has become very difficult to work there. There is absence of trade union conscience amongst them. They say they are going away because they are only temporary. They do not demand any higher wages or higher dearness allowance and so on and so forth.

I now come to occupational diseases. Only recently a book has been published. Much has to be done in this regard. The coal industry is in existence for the last so many years. Three lakhs of people are working in the coal industry. I am given to

[Shri Vittal Rao]

understand that not a single worker died of this disease. When I met the Chief Surgeon of the Singareni collieries, I asked him: "Do you know about the diseases which are declared as industrial diseases in coal mines?" He said: "I do not know". He really did not know. These Medical Officers are not properly treating these diseases because they will have to pay compensation.

Here, in the Government Departments, each Ministry follows a different labour policy. If it relates to Communications, one sort of policy is followed. If it is about Defence, another policy is followed. Today every organisation which has been registered under the Trade Union Act and has got sufficiently large number of members, should be recognised.

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): How much?

Shri Vittal Rao: Ten per cent., twenty per cent. I am prepared even for 25 per cent.

Shri Nambiar: We are prepared for any percentage.

Shri Vittal Rao: If I had time I would have shown to the hon. Minister that all the labour legislations that have been enacted during the last four years, whether it is the Standing Orders, Bonus Rules or Provident Fund Rules, all have to be revised because they are weighted in favour of employers and against workers.

Shri P. C. Bose (Manbhum North): India today is respected as one of the eight industrially advanced countries of the world and for that reason it has a permanent place on the governing body of the ILO. It is therefore expected that the labour conditions in India should be more or less on a par with the advanced countries of the world but unfortunately we know it very well that in spite of earnest attempts in recent years by the Government, we are still far behind our expectations in the matter of ameliorative conditions of labour. Labourers are suffering mainly from housing difficulties and their standard of living is still very low.

The question is, "why are we so behind?" Is it industrial advance? Why is this condition existing when we are given a place in the governing body of the ILO. Government in recent years, of course, have passed a number of labour legislations and have adopted a number of schemes for the housing, welfare and other amenities for labour. In the international field also I find from ILO records that India has ratified more conventions than many other countries of the world. For example, while India has ratified 20 conventions upto April 1951, Afghanistan has ratified only five, Australia which is also one of the advanced countries of the world has ratified 15, Burma 14, Canada 17, Ceylon six, China 15, Egypt six, Pakistan 19—of course, 14 out of this were ratified by undivided India—Switzerland, one of the most advanced countries in the world has ratified only 19, South Africa ten. There is, of course, no doubt, that certain improvements have been achieved in several respects by various actions of the Government but will it solve the real problem of the labour and improve their standard of living which is the ultimate aim of Government? For some time this question is agitating the minds of many thinkers and experts and it has been pointed out by many of these thinkers that both the purchasing power of the people of India and the productive capacity of the labour in India are very low. Unless some improvement is achieved in these respects, the standard of living will not improve to any considerable extent.

As regards the purchasing power of the people, the Planning Commission is fully alive to this issue and all attempts are being made by them to improve the purchasing power of the people.

As regards the productive capacity of the labourer, the ILO has suggested certain measures such as paid apprenticeship, vocational training, more mechanisation, etc. You cannot run an industry with half mechanisation, and half manual labour. That simply means waste of man power and loss of production. In our country, in mines and in factories we find that more manual labour is used than mechanical power. We have got mechanised industries; but we do not use machinery. We have heard that a miner in India produces only as much as 1/10th of what an English miner produces. After investigation we have found that they are able to produce more because they have got more machinery, and consequently, they earn more money. Here, three miners raise one ton of coal, whereas in England, one man raises three tons. That means nine times or ten times more. In America, the production is much more: six tons *per capita*. This matter requires very serious consideration by the Government and the employers. Unless they use man power with

mechanical help, these conditions will never improve. More production means more income; more income means more wages to labour, and that means, better living conditions. These are simple facts. Whatever legislation may be passed, whatever force we may employ, you cannot produce more wealth unless the *per capita* production is increased.

The ILO suggestion regarding paid apprenticeship is very important. A man must learn before he is put to a job. Here, in India, a layman comes from the village and he is immediately put on the work. He does not produce as much as an experienced or trained man. Vocational training and further mechanisation are the other points. I hope the Government will examine these suggestions and adopt such measures as will be of advantage to our country. In addition, I feel that if labourers can live in sanitary houses and can purchase commodities at prices within their means, their capacity for work will increase. It means that they will be physically better fit to do the work.

It has been said that these Bonus and Provident Fund Acts are all in favour of the employers. I do not believe that. These things were not in existence before. They have been passed in favour of labour. The employers have to pay for bonus and provident fund. These are important pieces of legislation. While I was looking into this matter, I found that as far back as 1871 only one Act was passed by the then Government, the Factories Act and till the last war, 1917 or 1918, no labour law was passed. That is one of the facts from which we are now suffering. For 50 years, there was no labour legislation, and all laws that have been passed have been passed only during the last several years. Therefore, I think the Government is not to blame so much that they have not passed legislation. They have passed laws.

But, there are certain anomalies. For example, one Act has been passed to protect young persons up to the age of 15 or 16. They are not allowed to work. Side by side, you must have a Compulsory Education Act. Because, if we do not send our boys to school, nor to work, what will they do? They will go to the bazar and become pick pockets. These anomalies are there. Recently I attended one of the adult education centres. One working class woman came to me with some children and asked me to get the children inside so that they can also learn. I said, this school is for adults and not for children. She said, "My God, only when the boys become old they will learn, not now!" Compulsory primary education should be introduced. I place these matters before the Ministry for their consideration.

Sometimes industry will have a boom; sometimes there will be recession. Nobody can control these things, in a capitalist or semi-capitalist economy. In spite of all this, the Ministry should see that large-scale retrenchment is never allowed. The Employment Exchange is there. I moved a resolution the other day that those who want to effect any large-scale retrenchment must inform the Employment Exchange offices at least six months ahead of retrenchment and also those who want to employ new men, must inform the Employment Exchange sufficiently in advance. If this is done, much of the hardship that is inflicted on labour will be saved.

Lastly, I am sure that the last Labour Minister and the present Minister are sufficiently acquainted with labour problems in this country. They have done enough for labour. I hope they will do much more and I thank them very much.

Shri Elayaperumal (Cuddalore—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I want to say something about agricultural labour only. While something has been done for industrial labour, nothing has been done for agricultural labourers, on whose labour and sweat depends the entire food production of the country.

Agricultural labourers are houseless people. So, waste lands must be provided for their house sites. Their conditions are worse than the condition of the displaced persons. Their wives and children are half naked and semi-starved though they produce the food for the entire country. In their streets there is no school and no well. In my constituency, Cuddalore, which is in the Madras State, agricultural labourers are getting very small and low wages. A man is getting one Madras measure of paddy for a whole day's work and a woman gets only 3/4ths of a Madras measures of paddy. In the dry areas of Vriddachalam and Kallakurichi *taluks*, an agricultural labourer gets from six annas to eight annas per day and a female labourer gets only from five annas to six annas for the whole day's work. In some of the villages in Chidambaram *Taluk*, the lady members of the tillers family must work in the landlord's house

[Shri Elayaperumal]

without any daily wages but her husband only will get his daily wages. If the husband refuses to send the women to his master's house for free work, suddenly, he will be removed from his *pannayal* service without any notice. If I may say so, it is nothing but a forced labour system which is existing in those parts. From the year 1948, the agricultural labourers of Chidambaram *taluk* are demanding fair wages. After long hours of work in the Agricultural season, they are getting only a small quantity of low and inferior grains. After finishing their work, if they leave their master's house and if they demand their wages, the masters give a negative reply only. Because the landlords will not give paddy from their houses. There is a proverb in Tamil which was given by our poetess Avvai:

Uzhawar thame ulagaththani.

That is, agriculture is the backbone of the country. There is another proverb in Tamil:

Uzlutholil nirkkin marutholil nadva.

That is, if the agricultural labourer will not come forward to produce foodgrains, the whole country will suffer without food. Then, it was said by our national poet Amarakavi Bharatiyar in Tamil:

Thani oruvanukku unavillai enil Jagattinai Azhithiduvom.

That is, if one person is allowed to starve, the whole country deserves to be condemned and destroyed.

In the year 1948, when the agricultural labourers of Kattumamargudi Kumaratchi Firkas demanded for their full wages, they were beaten by *goondas* who were brought by *mirasdars* and zamindars, and at that time, no action was taken by the police because no one came forward to give evidence. Most of the Harijans and *Padayachis* are engaged in agricultural work in Chidambaram *taluk*.

After years of consideration, the Minimum Wages Act was placed on the statute book in the year 1948. I am really disappointed that the Act has not yet been implemented by our several State Governments except Ajmer, Kutch and Delhi. The agricultural workers of Chidambaram *taluk* have been demanding fair wages from 1948, but till now no action has been taken by our Madras State Government. I request Government and the Labour Minister also to issue directives to carry out this work. Otherwise, it will give room to the anti-social elements. On March 7, 1953, fifty Harijans of Adoor and Killnattam villages which are in Chidambaram *taluk* were arrested for demanding fair wages.

I am very thankful to our Congress Government for abolishing zamindaris, but by mere abolition of zamindaris, you cannot solve the labourers' problems. I request the Government to abolish all the intermediaries between the States and the actual tiller of the soil, and I also request the Government to abolish landlordism and the land must be settled to the actual tiller of the soil. It is the only way to solve the agrarian problem.

An Hon. Member: That is only the Communist policy.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: He wants it.

Shri Elayaperumal: No. It is not a communal problem. It is a national problem. So, I request the Government that necessary action must be taken to remove agrarian unrest. I hope our Government and the Labour Minister will do the needful for the agricultural labourers in the future.

Shri Frank Anthony: My cut motion draws attention to the conditions of the workers in the Kolar Gold Fields.

I have had the opportunity of visiting the Kolar Gold Fields on several occasions. I was last there in September of last year. I believe, that the Minister was there shortly before I visited the Kolar Gold Fields. But I venture to suggest that, perhaps, he was not able to get a real picture of the conditions in the fields. That was not his fault. Like all Ministers, he was perhaps feted, and his was a conducted tour. In that respect, I was more fortunate. I was able to address a meeting of the workers, and I was able to meet several hundreds of them. I also had the opportunity of meeting the Kolar Gold Fields Mining Board which is the supreme managing body. As a matter of fact I addressed a meeting under the chairmanship of Mr. Arthur Taylor, the Managing Director. And I made an appeal to the management of the Kolar Gold Fields to read the handwriting on the wall. I asked them in a very moderate and reasonable way that they should anticipate events; otherwise, events would overtake and overwhelm them. All I asked them for

was a reasonable degree of fairplay for the subordinate staff; but I regret to say that my appeal seems to have fallen on completely barren psychological ground. I did not ask for complete equalization. I said that some semblance of egalitarian principles should be applied to the subordinate staff. And I regret to say that the reaction of the Mining Board was not one of reasonable acceptance, but one of resentment. They regarded my request for fairplay for the workers as amounting to heresy, and I regret to say after I left, there was insidious pressure brought to bear on the unfortunate staff.

My own reading of the position in the Kolar Gold Fields is that Communism has a very strong hold on the workers there. And I venture to suggest further that unless the Centre intervenes—intervenes effectively and immediately—that Communism will sweep the Kolar Gold Fields. The only alternative to effective intervention by the Ministry of Labour is for the workers, in desperation, to turn to Communism. Independence may have come politically to the country, but in the Kolar Gold Fields, I saw a degree of economic thraldom which is difficult to believe unless one sees it for oneself—the perpetuation of glaring inequalities between the grossly overprivileged and the exploited underprivileged. I found the Managing Board so steeped in colonial complexes of feudal exploitation, that they resented any suggestion that the subordinate staff should be given conditions which approximate to human conditions of work.

In the Kolar Gold Fields, there are three main strata of employees, and want to draw attention to—I do not know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the gross discrimination which exists between the stratum at the top and the lowest stratum represented by the subordinate staff. At the top, there is first the Sterling covenanted staff. Now, these people draw overseas allowances. That, by itself, may not be entirely objectionable, but a noticeable feature is this, that the Sterling covenanted staff not only get overseas allowance, but their overseas allowance is attracted to their salaries for the purpose of their own and the company's contribution to provident fund. What I discovered was that the privileges, the allowances, the salaries which the covenanted staff in the Kolar Gold Fields draw—all these make the conditions and the emoluments of the old I.C.S. pale into insignificance.

Let me give the hon. Minister only some indication of the kind of privileges enjoyed by the covenated staff. Apart from the sterling covenanted staff who get their overseas allowance, the next stratum is represented by the covenanted staff. Some Indians have now been included among the covenanted staff, but they are mostly in the lower reaches.

The covenanted staff, both Europeans and Indians, get these conditions of service. They not only get provident fund, but they get pension; they get rent-free accommodation. Not only do they get dearness allowance, but their wives and their children get dearness allowance. The covenanted staff get what is euphemistically known as a 'bungalow allowance'. In fact, it is intended to pay the cost of their servants. The covenanted staff get free fuel and free lighting. They get free medical attention for themselves and their families. In addition they get a bonus, and last but not least, there is a shop intended for the covenanted staff where they get all their stores at cost price. All the senior covenanted staff have free cars, free chauffeurs, and unlimited petrol, and those covenanted staff who cannot be supplied with cars, even when they have to go to a picture, have their taxi-hire paid by the company. These are only some of the privileges which I have indicated.

Now, let me give you the contrast and tell you the condition of the subordinate staff. All the subordinate staff are Indians—in the term 'Indians' I include several hundreds and perhaps thousands of Anglo-Indians. The contrast is so terrible, that literally any decent-minded person after looking over these conditions must see red—I should imagine that the next logical step would be—to go red. These subordinates have got only a modified provident fund. The covenanted staff on the other hand have a pension and a provident fund. In addition, the covenanted staff get their provident fund calculated from 1920. All that the subordinate staff get is an emasculated provident fund, calculated from 1940. If a man has been working from 1900 onwards, his provident fund is calculated only from 40 years after that year. I may mention here that there is no age limit in the Kolar Gold Fields. I met many employees, 70 and 75 years old. The climate there is extremely salubrious: a man 70 years old there is as fit as a man in New Delhi of the age of 45 (*Interruption*). What I was trying to make out is this, that men at the age of 75 or so retiring after 50 years of service or so, retire on a provident fund amounting to a shameful

[Shri Frank Anthony]

figure of Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 5,000. On the railways, a guard who gets Rs. 250 or so a month, after 20 years' service, gets about Rs. 20,000 provident fund, whereas these men, after 50 to 55 years of service get only Rs. 4,000 or so. When I asked the Mining Board as to whether they did not consider this amount as an indefensibly disgraceful and inadequate amount, they raised their hands in a protest of horror and said 'Why should a man retiring at the age of 70 require more than Rs. 4000 with which to retire?'

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair*]

Unlike the covenanted staff, a part from this meagre provident fund which is all that these subordinate staff get, they get no dearness allowance for their wives and children. Unlike the covenanted staff, they get no rent-free quarters. Out of their paltry salaries, rent is deducted for hovels, which are given the glorified name of quarters. Unlike the covenanted staff, they do not get any bungalow allowance with which to pay their servants. Unlike the covenanted staff, they get no free fuel. Unlike the covenanted staff, they get no free lighting. Unlike the covenanted staff, they have no shop from which to buy their stores at cost price. And last but not least, it is unnecessary to say, that unlike the covenanted staff, they get no conveyance and certainly no taxi-hire. In addition to this kind of a sweated labour, conditions are indefensibly horrible. We talk of foreign pockets in the country, but here you have not a foreign pocket, but conditions which savour of the worst form of fuedal exploitation and a form of mediaeval structure of economy.

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Pratapgarh Distt.—West *cum* Rae Bareli Distt.—East): Conditions in foreign pockets are better, according to you?

Shri Frank Anthony: I have no doubt that in the foreign pockets, they are perhaps better. I was in Goa recently, and I could get an unlimited quantity of liquor at very limited prices. But that is by the way.

One of the iniquitous or unequal sort of treatment given to these people is that they get no gratuity. The hon. Minister of Labour is a veteran in labour matters. When I told the Mining Board that the smallest industrial concern today gives to an employee who has had ten to fifteen years of continuous service, at least a gratuity of 15 months' pay, they raised their hands in a protest of horror. These men are getting nothing after 40 to 45 years of service. They get only about Rs. 4,000, and no gratuity. In addition, there is absolutely no security of service. Men after 20 to 25 years of approved service have their services abruptly terminated, with one month's notice, and they have to work out the months' notice. And they do not get after 25 years' service, one anna's compensation. Will the hon. Minister believe it when I tell him that a man after 25 years of service, whose work has been commendably done, and who gets a not munificent salary of about Rs. 350 a month, gets one month's notice and has his services terminated? He is lucky if he gets 12 to 15 hundred rupees, after 25 years of service.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: Provident fund?

Shri Frank Anthony: Yes, provident fund. I would ask the hon. Minister to go into these conditions. The evil of discrimination has spread through and contaminated every aspect of life in the Kolar Gold Fields. And so far as I was concerned, the last straw was reached, when I was told of a condition which possibly or probably exists in South Africa, with Malanite criminals and their apartheid policies, but which also exists in the Kolar Gold Fields.

This discrimination between the covenanted staff and the uncovenanted staff is carried even beyond the grave. If there is a father who is a covenanted employee, and his son happens to be an uncovenanted employee, they have to be buried in separate cemeteries, because the covenanted staff are afraid that their remains will be polluted by the remains of the uncovenanted staff!

Shri Punnoose (Alleppey): That is God's Covenant.

Shri Frank Anthony: It is covenant of the Kolar Gold Fields Mining Board.

I would ask the hon. Minister to look into these matters. I believe that he suggested that some kind of a committee would be appointed to look into the question with regard to the closing down of the Oorgam mines. I would ask him to extend, if that is possible, the terms of reference. Let them go and investigate the conditions of service not only so far as the Oorgam mines are concerned, but so as the conditions in the Kolar Gold Fields generally are concerned.

श्री विद्यालंकार (जालन्धर) : यह बात तो माननी ही पड़ेगी कि पिछले पांच साल से जो कुछ गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया की लेबर पालिसी रही है वह प्रोग्रैसिव पालिसी रही है और उन्होंने काफ़ी कानून इस उद्देश्य से बनाए हैं कि मजदूरों के हितों की रक्षा हो सके । जहां तक पालिसी का ताल्लुक है मुझे एस बात पर खुशी है कि पिछले साल से जब से कि वर्तमान श्रम मंत्री ने मन्त्रित्व सम्भाला है उन्होंने काफी विचार किया है कि नये बदले हुए हालात में हम को क्या तबदीलियां करनी हैं और कानूनों को क्या नया रूप देना है । पिछले साल से उन्होंने इस सम्बन्ध में जो चर्चा की है उस से काफ़ी विचार मंथन हुआ है और हम को इस बात की खुशी है कि पिछले दिनों में नैनीताल में और दूसरी जगहों में जो विचार हुआ है उस में श्रम के सभी कार्य करने वालों और दिलचस्पी लेने वाले गिरोहों और पार्टियों ने हिस्सा लिया है और इस में काफ़ी कंट्री-ब्यूशन किया है । मैं यह चाहता हूं कि जब कि आज हम प्लानिंग की तरफ़ जा रहे हैं दो तीन बातें हम साफ़ कर दें । इस वक्त तक जहां तक पालिसी को अमल में लाने का ताल्लुक है सूबों में विशेष रूप से और मैं कहूंगा कि बहुत हद तक सैंटर में भी उस पालिसी पर अमल नहीं होता जिसका कि हम बार बार ऐलान करते हैं या जिसकी हमारे माननीय मंत्री अपने व्याख्यानों में और अपने भाषणों में व्याख्या करते हैं ।

मैं यह समझता हूं कि उसके सम्बन्ध में दो, तीन बातें हमें साफ़ कर देनी चाहिएं । पहली चीज यह है कि गवर्नमेन्ट की लेबर पालिसी मजदूरों के हक़ में होनी चाहिए । "It should be frankly biased in favour of labour." मैं इस चीज को और ज्यादा साफ़ कर दूं कि गवर्नमेन्ट की लेबर पालिसी ऐसी होनी चाहिये कि चाहे उसके लिए ट्रिब्यूनल हों अथवा कोर्ट्स हों, मिल मालिक और मजदूरों के झगड़े जो उनके पास निर्णय के लिए जांय तो उन को मजदूरों का हित सर्वोपरि रखना चाहिए और उनको मजदूरों के हक़ में अपना फ़ैसला देना चाहिए, क्योंकि मजदूर जमात एक कमजोर जमात है । यहां पर "कलेक्टिव बार-गेनिंग" की चर्चा की गई और हमारे श्रम मंत्री ने इस बात की तरफ तवज्जूह दिलाई कि हमें 'कलेक्टिव बारगेनिंग', या सामुहिक फ़ैसले की तरफ़ ध्यान देना चाहिए, बिल्कुल ठीक चीज है, लेकिन हमें यह बात भी नहीं भुला देनी है की मजदूरों का संगठन बहुत कमजोर है और जहां कहीं मजदूर ताक़तवर हैं भी, वहां उनकी, आर्थिक हालत तो दयनीय रहती ही है । आजकल होता यह है कि अगर कहीं मजदूर लाचार होकर हड़ताल अथवा पिकेटिंग करते हैं तो सरकार उसमें रुकावट डालती है, पुलिस आती है और उनको ऐसा करने से रोकती है और वह ऐसा इसलिये करते हैं कि वर्तमान समाज व्यवस्था में जितनी भी "प्रापरटी" है कारखाने आदि हैं, उनकी रक्षा करना गवर्नमेन्ट का फर्ज माना गया है, वह सब ठीक है लेकिन मैं पूछूं कि जिस वक्त मिल मालिक बिना किसी कारण के मजदूरों को अपने कारखाने और 'फैक्टरीज़' से डिस्मिस कर देते हैं और छंटनी या 'रिट्रेन्चमेंट' कर देते हैं, उस वक्त क्या हमारा उन मजदूरों की रक्षा करना फ़र्ज नहीं हो जाता है । आज होता यह है कि मिलमालिक के कहने पर पुलिस आ जाती है और हड़ताली मजदूरों को जबरदस्ती वहां से हटा देती ह और मिल मालिकों की "प्रापरटी" की रक्षा करती है । परन्तु असल में हमें मजदूरों के हितों और उनके अधिकारों की रक्षा करने की जरूरत है और मजदूरों के अधिकारों की रक्षा करना हमारे लिए एक बहुत पवित्र चीज है । लेकिन अगर आप

[श्री विद्यालंकार]

कारखानेदारों और पूंजीपतियों का यह अधिकार मान लेते हैं कि जब वह जिसे चाहें काम से 'डिसमिस' कर सकते हैं या निकाल सकते हैं, मजदूरों की शान्तिपूर्ण हड़तालों और पिकेटिंग को तुड़वा सकते हैं तो मैं कहने पर मजबूर हूं कि हम मजदूरों के हितों की रक्षा नहीं कर रहे हैं। मैं समझता हूं कि आप इस सम्बन्ध में अपनी पालिसी तय करने जा रहे हैं और उसके लिए हम एक नया क़ानून भी बनाने जा रहे हैं, तब उस में हमें यह बात बिल्कुल साफ़ कर देनी चाहिए कि गवर्नमेंट की सिर्फ़ "प्राइवेट प्रापरटी" की रक्षा करने की जिम्मेदारी ही नहीं है, बल्कि उसका यह भी देखना फ़र्ज है कि मजदूरों के साथ न्याय होता है, और उनके वाजिब हक़ सुरक्षित रहते हैं। यदि कारखानेदार का कारखाने को सम्पत्ति पर अधिकार है और सरकार उस अधिकार की रक्षा करती है तो मजदूर का काम पाने का और कारखाने में मुलाजमत का भी हक है जिसकी रक्षा उतनी ही तत्परता से होनी चाहिए। प्रापरटी की रक्षा करने की सरकार की जिम्मेदारी के बारे में तो हाईकोर्ट, एपेलेट कोर्ट और दूसरे कोर्ट्स में यह एक आम उसूल तस्लीम कर लिया गया है कि प्रापरटी की रक्षा करना सरकार का फ़र्ज है, मैं वर्तमान दशाओं में इस सिद्धान्त के विरुद्ध नहीं हूं, यह तो ठीक है, लेकिन जब हम एक नया बिल लेबर पालिसी को लेकर बना रहे हैं तो यह चीज सब पर वाजे होजानी चाहिए कि सरकार का मजदूरों के लिए भी कुछ फ़र्ज है और उनके काम पाने और काम करने के उचित अधिकारों की रक्षा करना भी सरकार अपना कर्त्तव्य समझती है।

इसी तरह जहां पर "कम्पलसरी आरबिट्रेशन" और 'वालयेन्टरी आरबिट्रेशन' का सवाल आता है तो हम देखते हैं कि वहां "पब्लिक युटिलिटी सर्विस" और "नान पब्लिक युटिलिटी सर्विस" का भेद किया जाता है, मैं समझता हूं कि इस प्रकार का भेद करना बनावटी है और हमें इसको दूर करना चाहिए मैं इसकी कोई वजह नहीं समझता कि ऐसी "इंडस्ट्रीज" और उद्योग जो जनता के लिए उपयोगी "इंडस्ट्रीज" हैं पब्लिक युटिलिटी सर्विसेज हैं, उन के लिए सरकार की विशेष जिम्मेदारी तो है लेकिन जो "नान पब्लिक युटिलिटी सर्विसेज" हैं वहां के मजदूरों की रक्षा न की जाय, और दोनों के बीच ऐसा भेद करना ठीक व उचित नहीं है। जहां तक गवर्नमेन्ट के कारखानों का सवाल है, गवर्नमेंट अपने इस्टेबलिशमेंटस् को "पब्लिक युटिलिटी सर्विस" कहकर वहां पर मजदूरों के अधिकारों को खत्म कर देती है, लेकिन यह होना चाहिए कि मजदूर चाहे वह कहीं भी काम करे, हर जगह उसके अधिकारों की रक्षा होनी चाहिये। मैं चाहता हूं सरकार उन कारणों को दूर करने की कोशिश करे जिनके कारण मिलमालिकों और मजदूरों में आये दिन झगड़े चला करते हैं और जब तक हम उन बुनियादी कारणों को दूर नहीं करते तबतक हम अपने देश की व्यवस्था को और अपने देश के विभिन्न उद्योगों को उन्नत नहीं कर सकते। मिसाल के तौर पर मजदूरों की यूनियन्स् के "रेकगनाइज" करने का मसला अभी तक हल नहीं हो पाया और जब तक यूनियनों को "रेकगनाइज" नहीं किया जाता तब तक आपकी कोई "कलेक्टिव बारगेनिंग" नहीं हो सकती! यह बहुत जरूरी है कि गवर्नमट मजदूरों की यूनियन्स को तस्लीम करे क्योंकि अगर आप ऐसा नहीं करते तो मिलमालिक लोग किस से बात करेंगे और यूनियन्स् के तस्लीम करने में "रेकगनीशन" में किसी तरह की

कोई रुकावट नहीं होनी चाहिए । हमार क़ानून में जो "कम्पलसरी रेकगनीशन " की धाराऐं थीं उनके आधार पर या और नई धाराओं के आधारपर हमें कुछ न कुछ इस दिशा में करना चाहिए । यह बड़े हर्ष और सन्तोष का विषय है कि आप लेबर पालिसी के सम्बन्ध में एक नया क़ानून बनाने जा रहे हैं, लेकिन हम मुतवातिर तीन साल से उस नये कानून का इन्तजार कर रहे हैं और मैं नहीं कह सकता कि नया क़ानून कब तक बनकर तैयार हो जायगा, मैं यह भी नहीं जानता कि आया "बजट सेशन " में नया क़ानून आ भी रहा है या नहीं और मैं समझता हूं कि अगर आये भी तो उसपर विचार करने और पास करने में काफ़ी समय लग जायेगा, इसलिए मेरा सझाव है कि जबतक नया कानून नहीं बन पाता, तबतक मौजूदा क़ानून में जो ऐसी त्रुटियां हैं जिनकी वजह से दिक्कत होती है उनका हम सुधार कर लें और कोई "टेम्परेरी मेजर" "इन्टेरिम अरेंजमेंट" ऐसा होना चाहिए जिससे मजदूरों को राहत मिले । मोजूदा काननों में "इंडस्ट्रियल डिस्प्यट्स एक्टस" स्टेंडिंग आर्डस के कानून मिनिमम् वेजेज एकट और यूनियन के रेकगनीशन आदि जैसे जो खामियां है उनको सुधार लें, हम सिर्फ इतने ही से सन्तोष मानकर नहीं बैठ सकते कि नया क़ानून आने वाला है, इसलिए इस समय हमें कुछ नहीं करना है । इसलिए मैं प्रार्थना करूंगा कि इंटेरिम अरेंजमेंट के लिए कोई न कोई चीज हमें फ़ौरन करनी चाहिए जिससे कि मजदूरों के हितों की रक्षा हो सके । देश का "प्रोडेक्शन" बढाने की बड़ी चर्चा होती है और मैं भी चाहता हूं कि हमारा "प्रोडेक्शन" बढ़े, लेकिन ऐसे प्रोडेक्शन का क्या फ़ायदा जिसमें मजदूरों की छंटनी होती है और उनको काम से निकाला जाता हो, और जब आदमी बेकार हो जाते हैं तो वह आपका माल नहीं खरीद सकते, लोगों की खरीदने की शक्ति कम हो जाती है । जरूरत यह है कि वेलफ़ेयर स्टेट बनाने का जो हमारा आदर्श है उसमें तो यह होना चाहिए कि अगर मजदूरों की वेजेज नहीं बढायी जाती तो उनकी जरूरत की चीज़ों की क़ीमत तो कम की जाय । हम अपनी इंडस्ट्रीज को नेशनलाइज करना चाहते हैं, तो सिर्फ हमें इसी पर दृष्टि नहीं रखनी है कि "कैपिटल " कम खर्च हो, मिलमालिकों के खर्च में कमी आये और प्राडेक्शन ज्यादा हो और प्राफिट भी ज्यादा हो हमें यह भी ध्यान रखना चाहिए कि आम जनता की और मजदूरों आदि को चीजें उनकी जरुरत की चीजे कम दामों पर मिल सकें । सिर्फ़ यही जरूरी नहीं कि चीजों के दाम इस हिसाब से कम हों ताकि वह फ़ारेन मार्केट में बिक सकें । ऐसा बेशक हो, परन्तु मजदूर वैर्ग को कुर्बान करके नहीं— उन्हें कम उजरत देकर, उन पर काम का बोझ बढ़ा कर और एक बड़ी संख्या को बेकार कर के नहीं। अगर विदेशों में हमारा माल न बिके पर—हम कम क़ीमत पर माल बेचने की खातिर मजदूरों को बेकार न होने देंगे । अगर आपके "रेशनलाइजेशन" से यही मुराद है कि आप का प्रोडेक्शन बढ़े, और फ़ारेन मार्केटस् में आप की चीज़ें खप सके, चाहे मजदूरों की आर्थिक अवस्था हीन होती चली जाय और चाहे उनकी दिन पर दिन खरीदने की ताक़त कम होती जाय और इस तरह जो एक बेकारों की फ़ौज देश में रही है उसमें निरन्तर इजाफ़ा होता चला जाय, तो मैं कहूंगा कि वह "रेशनलाइजेशन" नहीं है और वह आपका जो एक वेलफ़ेयर स्टेट बनाने का मकसद है, उसके अनुकूल नहीं है । फ़ारेन मार्केट के लिये हमें मजदूरों की कास्ट पर सस्ती चीजें तैयार नहीं करनी चाहिएं ।

[श्री विद्यालंकार]

इसके साथ मैं दो चार मिनट में जो पालिसी के इम्प्लिमेन्टेशन का सवाल है उस के मुताल्लिक कुछ कहना चाहता हूं। जो हमारी नीति है वह काफ़ी प्रोग्रेसिव है, लेकिन हमारा जो अमल है, खास कर स्टेटों में वह बिलकुल "अ।प्रोग्रेसिव" है। मैं पंजाब स्टेट के बारे में कह सकता हूं कि वहां तो कम से कम यही हाल है। मेरे दोस्त हरिहरनाथ जी ने इस का जिक्र किया था, लेकिन मैं इस का जिक्र नहीं करना चाहता क्योंकि वह सबजूडिस है। मैं यह कह सकता हूं कि पंजाब गवर्नमेंट की तरफ़ से पहिले एक मामला ट्रिब्यूनल में भेजा गया अब मजदूरों पर दबाव डाला जा रहा है कि वे उसे वहां से वापस ले लें। उनके रास्ते में काफ़ी अड़चनें डाली जा रही हैं, और यह सब कारखानेदारों के दबाव में आकर किया जा रहा है। हमारे यहां जो झगड़े होते हैं उन को ट्रिब्यूनल में भेजने में भी काफ़ी दिक्कतें और उलझनें खड़ी की जाती हैं। मैं नहीं चाहता कि मामले ट्रिब्यूनलों में चलते रहें और हमारे मजदूर लोग मुक़द्दमेबाज़ी में फंसे रहें। परन्तु या तो आप मजदूरों को भी छोड़ दें कि वह स्ट्राइक करें, पिकेटिंग करें और जो उन की ताक़त है उस को इस्तेमाल करें क्योंकि जो काम करने वाले आदमी हैं आप अगर उन की हिफ़ाजत नहीं करते, तो फिर उन्हें खुला छोड़ दें। कारखानेदारों को भी आप "प्रोटेक्शन" देना बन्द करदें, और उनको और मजदूरों को आपस में फैसला करने दें। लेकिन जब आप देश के हित के लिये "फैक्टरी ओनर" को "प्रोटेक्शन" देते हैं ताकि काम चलता रहे तो आप को मजदूरों के हक़ को भी प्रोटेक्शन देना चाहिये। मैं जानता हूं कि जब झगड़े चलते रहते हैं, तब वह स्ट्राइक करना चाहते हैं, या और कोई रास्ता अपनाना चाहते हैं तो गवर्नमेंट के क़ानूनों के मातहत उन को धमकी दी जाती है लेकिन "फैक्टरी ओनर्स" से बोलने वाला कोई नहीं है। आप ने उन के लिये क्या क़ानून रक्खा है। आप ही बतलाइये कि जब कभी एम्प्लायर या फैक्टरी ओनर ग़लती करता है तो उन में से कितनों को जेल हुई? लेकिन कितने ही मजदूर हैं जो अपने अधिकारों की रक्षा के लिये जेलों में गये हैं। मैं तो चाहता था कि आप को मिसालें दूं और बताऊं कि कितनी ज्यादतियां मजदूरों पर हो रही हैं, लेकिन मेरे पास समय नहीं है। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि अधिकारियों के हाथों जिस तरह क़ानून का इम्प्लिमेन्टेशन होना चाहिये वह नहीं हो रहा है। मैं आप को पेप्सू का हाल बताना चाहता हूं, हालांकि वहां के शासन का अधिकार अभी हाल ही में आप के हाथों में आया है। वहां फगवाड़े के खांड के कारखाने में झगड़ा चल रहा है, ऐवार्ड हुआ, ऐवार्ड को गवर्नमेंट ने मानने का फ़ैसला किया, लेकिन कारखानेदारों ने उस फ़ैसले को मानने से इन्कार कर दिया और जब गवर्नमेन्ट ने कहा कि कारखाना चलाओ तो उन के कहने पर ध्यान नहीं दिया। जब उनकी यह हालत है कि गवर्नमेन्ट की नहीं सुनते तो जो मजदूर फ़ैक्टरी को चलाते हैं उन का क्या खयाल वह कर सकते हैं।

आखिर में मैं गवर्नमेन्ट के मुलाजिमों के सवाल पर कुछ कहना चाहता हूं। सरकारी मुलाजिमों की हालत आजकल बहुत खराब है। उन की लीव और पेन्शन का सवाल है, उन की टेन्योर आफ़ सर्विस और सिक्योरिटी का सवाल है। सैंकड़ों की तादाद में हमारे सरकारी मुलाजिम ऐसे हैं जिन की परमेनेन्सी के सवाल को अभी उठाया भी नहीं गया। दस दस साल नौकरी करने के बाद भी वह टैम्पोरेरी बने हुए हैं। जब तक हम उन की दिक्क़तों को हल नहीं कर सकेंगे, जब तक गवर्नमेन्ट एक आइडियल एम्प्लायर नहीं बनती, तब तक वह प्राइवेट इम्प्लायर पर इस के लिये कैसे दबाव

डाल सकती है। जब हम मजदूरों की हालत को सुधारने के लिये मालिकों पर जोर डालना चाहते हैं तो गवर्नमेन्ट को भी आइडियल एम्प्लायर बनना चाहिये। मैं तफ़सील में नहीं जाना चाहता लेकिन अगर आज जो रिप्रेजेन्टेशन आते हैं, दरख्वास्तें मुलाजिमों की आती हैं उन को देखें तो आप को मालूम होगा कि वह किन हालात में रह रहे हैं। मैं चाहता हूं कि गवर्नमेन्ट आइडियल एम्प्लायर बने और जो सर्विस रूल्स हैं जिन की वजह से उन को सब सहूलियतें मिल नहीं पा रही हैं, उन को बदले। जो अधिकार और जो सहूलियतें वह दूसरे मजदूरों को दे रही है वही अधिकार और वही सहूलियतें सरकारी मुलाजिमों को दी जायें तभी मैं समझता हूं कि हम सही तौर पर एक वैलफेयर स्टेट बना सकेंगे।

Shri Ramananda Das (Barrackpore): I congratulate the Government for passing many labour laws in the course of the last four or five years, such as the Indian Factories Act, the Minimum Wages Act, The Employees' State Insurance Act, the Trade Disputes Act, Employees' Provident Fund Act, etc. We are passing a number of Acts for the benefit of the labourers but unless the Act, are implemented fully it is no use. So far, only 50 per cent of the laws are fully implemented, and most of the labourers are not benefited. So, I appeal to the Government not to rest content with the passing of Acts but to implement them fully for the benefit of the labourers. Unless it is done, the mere passing of the Acts will not give any benefit.

The next thing I will deal with is "retrenchment". Retrenchment of the workers is the order of the day. We are seeing retrenchment in the tea gardens, in textiles, in the iron and steel industry, the coal mines and lastly in the jute industry. In the tea gardens about a lakh of workers have been retrenched in the course of the last two or three months. The crisis has been created more by the employers than by natural circumstances. When the demand came from the workers for the implementation of the Minimum Wages Act for the tea gardens labourers, the employers adopted these tactics and they closed the gardens and put about a lakh of workers out of employment. Before two years the employers made huge profits, about 200 per cent. profit and they ate away all those profits and they exploited to their advantage the position of the labourers. I appeal to Government to come forward with a scheme to save these labourers. The Labour Minister had been to Bengal and Assam and he could not make any settlement because the employers did not agree.

Now, I come to the jute industry. In three or four months about 15,000 jute workers have been retrenched in West Bengal. The other day the Minister of Commerce and Industry admitted to me in writing that 11,000 workers have been retrenched but when I put a question to the Labour Minister, the Labour Minister pleaded ignorance. Yet he knows all about retrenchment. I appeal to the Labour Minister to go to these jute mills personally—and not in a conducted tour—and see the condition of the labourers who are working day and night and not getting any protection at the time of retrenchment—the India Government blaming the State Government and the State Government saying that it is the policy of the Central Government and the workers are between the horns of a dilemma. I would appeal to the Government to pass legislation when Parliament is in session and stop retrenchment altogether and immediately set up an enquiry Committee for this. In the case of the retrenchment, at least one month's pay and allowance should be given to the discharged workers for each year of work in the jute mill along with Company's share of Provident fund. Unless you do that, you will put thousands of workers out of employment without any compensation and relief.

Government passed the Agricultural Minimum Wages Act as far back as 1948. I am sorry to say, that so far as agricultural labour is concerned, they have not been benefited by this Act, because this Act has not been implemented in most of the States. The States are standing in the way of these labourers. So far as agricultural labour is concerned, there is still this forced labour or *begar*. It is still in existence, though it is illegal and against the Constitution, throughout the country more or less. I appeal to the Government to come forward with a bold scheme to save these agricultural labourers and other labourers from exploitation by vested interests.

Next I deal with conciliation proceedings. All disputes go up to the Conciliation Officers. But there is abnormal delay in the settlement of the disputes.

[Shri Ramananda Das]

It takes three to four months for the settlement of the dispute. If there be no settlement, the dispute goes to the Tribunal if the Minister or the Secretary be pleased to refer this case to the Tribunal. If it goes to the Tribunal, there it takes one year or two years. Then, it goes to the Appellate Tribunal because the employers take it up. There two or three years are taken. The workers are hard hit. So, I appeal to the Government to make this process for the settlement of the disputes an easy one. Abolish the Appellate Tribunal. It is only for the benefit of the employers, and not for the workers. The suggestion of the hon. Minister said that for conciliation you can have collective bargaining. But it is not practicable in these days when the employers' attitude is adamant and they are not liberal to the cause of the labourers. So, I appeal to the Government to evolve an easy process for the settlement of these disputes by some means, whether by legislation, or by rules of the Government. Unless you do so, the workers will be hard hit.

5 P.M.

I appeal to the Government to look into the condition of the municipal employees, such as sweepers and scavengers. These people are working in the municipalities and district boards and in towns. Their condition is wretched; they are kept under Essential Services Act. Their services are essential but they get no privilege. Under the labour laws they do not get the benefits. They are treated like cats and dogs. Last month there were several strikes throughout Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. But not a single dispute was referred to a tribunal; not a single demand was met by the municipalities. I appeal to the Government to come forward with a bold scheme to improve the lot of these municipal workers by making them to be treated on a par with factory labour. All the other labour legislations should be applied to them.

I now come to the lot of contract labour. The condition of the contract labour is the worst. Even big employers like the Tatas prefer to keep a greater portion of their labour force on contract, so that they may be given less wages and denied the other benefits of labour legislation. I appeal to the Government either to abolish contract labour or to give them the same facilities as are enjoyed by permanent labour.

Another important feature—which I mentioned in the course of the General Discussion on the Budget—is the disparity in the salaries. In pre-Independence days the salary of a Minister was Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 6,000; but our Ministers have agreed to a voluntary cut and have accepted Rs. 2,250. But our highranking civil servants are still drawing Rs. 4,000 to Rs. 5,000; while the salary of a clerk is only Rs. 50 to Rs. 100. In England which is a rich country the discrepancy is only seven times while in our country it is as much as 80 or 100 times. The same is the case with regard to private employment. While the salary of the lowest paid employee is only Rs. 20 or 25, managing agents and directors still continue to get Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000. Foreign directors still continue to carry away large sums of money from our country. But when the market is dull they go on retrenching labourers. I would request the Government to fix a minimum salary of Rs. 100 for low paid people and Rs. 1,000 for the highest paid. Unless you do it, you cannot remove the discontent prevailing in the country.

So far as the welfare measures of the Government are concerned they are good; but they are not being implemented. In the rural areas the labourers are hard hit. Workers take money on interest at the rate of two annas per rupee per month. I appeal to the Government to open co-operative banks or cooperative credit societies in consultation with trade union.

Compulsory education is important for the labourers. Unless labourers are educated they are not conscious of their duties and responsibilities of citizenship. It is the duty of the Government to make education compulsory in the case of labourers.

Unemployment is the order of the day. According to the Employment Exchanges as many as ten lakhs of educated and un-educated are unemployed throughout the country. This problem cannot be solved unless you develop cottage industries and other big industries. Cottage industries can absorb several lakhs of people throughout the country; but they are in a dying condition. Leather industries, basket-making, weaving, etc are on the verge of extinction as they do not get any patronage either from the Central Government or the State Government. So far as big industries are concerned, capital is shy. Investors are afraid of nationalisation and are not coming forward to invest in new industries. I appeal to the Government to come forward with a bold scheme to open new industries all over the country.

I request the hon. the Labour Minister to see for himself the condition of the labourers without being conducted by his officers. Unless he goes by himself, he will not be able to see the real picture of the labourers.

Shri B. S. Murthy: It is gratifying to see a virile and veteran trade unionist like Mr. Giri being the Minister today and trying to do the work he has begun thirty years ago. I had the good fortune to be closely associated with Mr. Giri and I have had opportunities to know how his heart has been and is throbbing to do his best by the labour in India. Therefore, I shall not be far wrong if I express my confidence that are long he would be able to do his best and see that in India the trade union movement is placed on a sound basis and also the labour, both industrial and agricultural, is saved from internal and external exploitation.

In trying to discuss the question of labour we must have the picture of our Five Year Plan before us. Every Plan must have certain predetermined objectives and India has accepted mixed economy and has given room for the institution of private property. The objective, as has been stated in the Five Year Plan, is to raise the standard of living. Well, it is a very intriguing question. In a country like ours with 35 crores of people, with millions of people unemployed, and many more millions under-employed, I do not know how our planners are expecting the standard of living to be raised within five years, as they have stated.

There is one more lacuna in our Plan and that is deficit financing. Deficit financing, in common parlance, is created money. Created money means issuing more currency notes and by doing so we may be trying to add certain works, but the danger of inflation cannot be avoided. The prices will rise and imports from abroad will have to be increased. Under all these circumstances, I do not know, how Mr. Giri will try to save the condition of labour from further deterioration.

I would like to divide labour in India as agricultural and industrial. The main emphasis today is on industrial labour which according to latest estimates are not more than 50 lakhs. Though India is occupying the eighth place as far as industrial development is concerned, she has not been able to do much substantial by these 50 lakhs of industrial labour who are the main basis for the industrial prosperity of this country. It has been a wrong notion for long that the employer is the big brother and the employee is the younger brother. As is usual, in all these cases the big brother always comes with the big stick and knocks away the maximum. As the previous speaker has stated, there is unemployment, there is retrenchment, there is the ravishing eagerness on the part of the employer to squeeze, as much as possible, not only the income but also the blood of the worker. I hope that the Government will soon bring legislation in order to prevent this sort of unnatural exploitation that is going on not only in workshops but in plantations, in mining and everywhere where the capitalists element is to be found.

Government have not been able to formulate any legislation for a uniformity in the payment of wages. If you take things into consideration there is no uniformity anywhere. From place to place, from industry to industry, from factory to factory and from occupation to occupation there is the lack of uniformity. And this sort of lack of uniformity is trying to be a spoke in the wheel of the progress of trade unionism and is also trying to impede the advancement of organised labour. Because of this lack of uniformity the collective bargaining power of labour is not being brought into full play. Therefore, I wish that the Government would soon consider and devise means to have uniformity in wages in all sections and sectors.

No doubt the Minimum Wages Act has come into being. But it touches only the fringe of the problem. Minimum wages also differ from place to place. And the time has now come not for minimum wages but for fair wages. Therefore, the Government should bring forth legislation to see that a man is paid the minimum possible to make both ends meet and enabled to live, not hand to mouth, but to live fairly in a free country, and to see that all his aspirations as a human being and as a citizen of India are realised.

The conditions are the worst in plantations and also in mining. My friend Mr. Ramananda Das has stated the woeful state of affairs in plantations, how in the tea industry thousands and thousands of people are being retrenched. Only recently, nearly ten thousand people from West Bengal have staged a march into the streets of Calcutta, and so far I do not think anything has been done for them. I am sure the Labour Minister would take early steps to see that no retrenchment is made. If necessary an Ordinance may

[Shri B. S. Murthy]

be issued to see to it that the employers are prevented from taking to this sort of anti-social activities.

Well, neither the Government nor the employer can complain against labour because labour has been true to its professions, and the assurance it has given while agreeing to the Industrial Truce Resolution has been kept up by it in spirit as well as in letter. It is only here and there we see the employer trying to take advantage of some lacuna in the agreement because he is rich and is able to command means to foil the agreement.

I must congratulate the Government on one piece of legislation, that is the Employees' State Insurance scheme. I think it is the first legislation of its kind in the South-East Asian countries. (*Interruption*) Mr. Nambiar says "good".

Shri Nambiar: But it is not implemented.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Well, it is always gratifying to see a Communist saying something good, and especially Mr. Nambiar because he is thrice distilled! The Government of India and the Ministry deserve congratulation for this piece of legislation, because it is leading the South-East Asian countries in this social security legislation. But I must also say that it is still in the archives of the Central Government. Its ambit is thirty lakhs to come under its operation. But I do not think even three lakhs have been benefited by this legislation. Therefore, the passing of legislation is of no use until and unless full play is given to the provisions of the legislation.

As far as industrial labour is concerned, the time has come when many more pieces of legislation should be brought forward to see that we reach the goal of giving old age pensions and also survivor pensions as are seen in other industrially advanced countries. I am sure that the Central Government will try to bring this piece of legislation before Mr. Giri.....

Shri Nambiar: Before Mr. Giri what? The sentence is not complete.

Shri B. S. Murthy ... lays down the reins of his office.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: Is he going to lay it down?

Shri Frank Anthony: And join the Kolar Gold Fields?

Shri B. S. Murthy: He will not join the Kolar Gold Fields so long as Mr. Anthony is there.

I would like to say a few words about agricultural labour. It is my pet subject. And without any offence to Mr. Giri or other Labour Ministers in India, I think Labour Ministership in India is a luxury as long as they are not able to tackle and grapple with this annoying problem. In India there are nearly thirteen to fifteen crores of people that depend upon agriculture. And amongst them nearly half are landless labour. Most of them are seasonal labour, and some of them are migratory labour. India is not able even to face the problem. It is fighting shy to face the problem. And our Five Year Plan, First, Second and Third—scores of Plans—may come and go. Until and unless Government is able to take courage in both hands and look squarely into the problem and see what can be done by these landless labour, not only the prosperity but even the security of India could not be depended upon; because it is dissatisfaction and discontent in the masses that always disturb the security of any country. In India, if nearly fifteen crores of people are disturbed every time and they do not have even two square meals a day, how long can they go on being pleased with the idea that they are free and that they are in Free India?

In this connection I would like to suggest, as I have done some time before, that the problem is not as difficult and insoluble as some friends have been thinking. There is nearly seven crores of acres of culturable waste in India. This land could be taken on a co-operative basis and most of the labour could be provided with work. This will not only solve unemployment but it will solve the food problem also. Well, if the standard of living of agricultural labour has to be raised, they must be given more wages. As it is, agriculture is not a paying industry and therefore agricultural labour may not be able to get more wages. I think my friend Mr. Ramachandra Reddi will be happy if the produce of agricultural industry should be given more price and a higher price, but, if it is of a higher price, the labour will not be able to purchase. Therefore, the price should not be increased but what has to be done? Something must be done for the agriculturists. I would like the Government to see that the cost of production, the cost of agriculture should be reduced as

far as possible and the agriculturist must be given all the necessary wherewithal to see that he produces more at the least cost possible. Not only that. He must also be given Government's help, pecuniary and otherwise, so that the agriculturists will be able to produce more with less cost. At the same time there should be better wages for the agricultural labour and all facilities as are provided for industrial labour should also be extended to them. I do not have any quarrel with them.

Then there is seasonal labour, migratory labour in agriculture. This labour will be migrating in season from one Province to another Province, from one district to another district. At such times I think railway and other concessions may be given to them.

As far as the agricultural labour is concerned, the hon. Minister was pleased to promise that a data would be collected as far as unemployment is concerned and it has not been done. I hope very soon he will be able to give the figures of unemployment as far as the agricultural labour is concerned. He will also see that a Commission is appointed to go into the problem and see how far the agricultural labour could be helped. A legislation may be brought up after the Commission has reported on the matter. I hope Mr. Giri will try to do his best for the agricultural labour as he has done for the industrial labour.

श्री रूप नारायण (जिला मिर्जापुर व जिला बनारस—पश्चिम—रक्षित—अनुसूचित जातियां) : आदरणीय सभापति महोदय, मुझे इस सदन के समक्ष आज पहली बार बोलने का अवसर मिला है इसलिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूं और हाउस का मैं ज्यादा समय न लेकर थोड़ में ही अपने क्षेत्र के विषय में कहना चाहता हूं।

मैं बनारस और मिर्जापुर क्षेत्र से चुना जा चुका हूं और यहां आया हूं। मेरे क्षेत्र में चार किस्म के मजदूर हैं। एक तो आप जानते हैं कि बनारस शहर में बनारसी साड़ी बनाने का बहुत पुराना धन्धा है यह रोजगार पहले बहुत ज्यादा उन्नत था और इसमें हजारों आदमी काम करते थे और अपनी जीविका कमाते थे लेकिन आज हालत यह है कि करीब २ तीस हजार आदमी जो इस बनारसी साड़ी के बनाने में लगे हुए थे वह बेकार हैं और आज उनकी रोटी और पेट भरने की समस्या उनके सामने विकराल रूप में मौजूद है। इस के विषय में कामर्स मिनिस्ट्री और लेबर मिनिस्ट्री दोनों का ध्यान खींचा गया और शायद लेबर मिनिस्टर तो बनारस जाकर स्वयं हालत देख भी आये हैं और उनके पास इस सम्बन्ध में रिप्रेजेन्टेशनस् भी आ चुके हैं, लेकिन खेद है कि अभी तक उस विषय में कुछ नहीं हो सका है। आज उनकी हालत इतनी दयनीय हो चली है कि बेकारी के कारण तीन तीन चार चार दिन तक उनको खाने को नहीं मिलता है और अभी तीन चार महीने की ही बात है कि एक बुनकर जो साड़ी बुनता था, जब उसका कोई रोजगार नहीं रह गया और घर में उसके तीन बच्चे और स्त्री थी, तीन दिन निरन्तर उपवास करते जब होगये, तो चौथे दिन उसने सोचा कि जाकर किसी से उधार मांगे, जेवर और बर्तन आदि तो वह पहले ही बेचकर खा चुका था, लेकिन अभाग्यवश उसको किसी से भी क़र्ज़ नहीं मिला, तो आखिर में सब ओर से निराश होकर वह रात में आकर अपने तीनों बच्चों को क़त्ल करता है, इसके बाद अपनी बीवी को भी क़त्ल करने के लिये छुरा उठाता है और पेट में उस के भोंक देता है, छुरा तो लग जाता है, मगर बीवी जाग जाती है, उसके बाद वह तुरन्त अपने को भी छुरा मार लेता और आत्महत्या कर लेता है, औरत बच जाती है और वह कोर्ट में बड़ा दर्दनाक बयान देती है कि हमारे परिवार की ऐसी अवस्था थी और इसलिये बाध्य होकर मेरे पति ने यह किया। मैं गवर्नमेंट से अपील करना चाहता हूं कि उसको जल्द से जल्द इस दिशा में सोचना चाहिये और बुनकरों

[श्री रूप नारायण]

के लिये उचित काम का प्रबन्ध करना चाहिये ताकि वह बेकार न रहें।

दूसरी समस्या हमारे यहां के कारपेट वीवर्स की है, बनारस और मिर्ज़ापुर में कारपेट का रोज़गार होता है और किसी ज़माने में यह उद्योग बड़ा फैला हुआ था और सारे इंडिया से पांच करोड़ डालर की लागत का कारपेट प्रति वर्ष यहां से बाहर भेजा जाता था, लेकिन आज वह काम बिल्कुल ठप्प हो गया है और पता नहीं इसका क्या कारण है, बाहर की डिमांड बहुत कम हो गई है और उसका नतीजा यह हुआ है। हमारे बनारस और मिर्ज़ापुर में जो मज़दूर इस उद्योग में लगे हुए थे, वह बिल्कुल बेकार हो गये हैं और मैं समझता हूं कि क़रीब चालीस, पचास हज़ार मज़दूर इस समय भी बेकार हैं और उन मज़दूरों में जो मुसलमान भाई थे वह काम न होने के कारण पाकिस्तान को काम की तलाश में चले गये, वहां वह धीरे धीरे एक एक करके चले गये इस उम्मीद में कि शायद वहां उनकी रोटी की समस्या हल हो सके, लेकिन वहां भी उनकी वही हालत है और वहां भी वह भूखे रह रहे हैं। हमारे बनारस, मिर्ज़ापुर में, किसान लोग भी अपने फ़ुरसत के समय जब उनको खेत पर काम नहीं रहता, तो वह अपने घरों में कारपेट बुनने का काम करते हैं, तो वह तो खेती करने वाले हैं, वह तो रो पीट कर किसी न किसी तरह काम अपना चला लेंगे, लेकिन जो बिल्कुल इसी रोज़गार पर निर्भर करते थे, वह तो आज बिल्कुल बेकार होगये हैं और उन के सामने अपनी जीविका कमाने का कोई साधन नहीं है। हमने कारपेट वीवर्स की हालत की तरफ़ लेबर मिनिस्टर का ध्यान खींचा और यह शायद वहां जाकर खुद देख भी आये हैं और मैं आशा करता हूं कि मिनिस्टर साहब बहुत जल्दी उस सम्बन्ध कोई न कोई क़दम उठायेंगे।

इसके अलावा हमारे यहां एक ख़ास क़िस्म के मज़दूर पेशा होते हैं जो लाही चपड़ा कहलाते हैं, इस उद्योग में भी क़रीब दस, बारह हज़ार मज़दूर काम करते हैं, आज यह भी रोज़गार बन्द हो गया है और इस उद्योग के सारे मज़दूर बेकार हो गये हैं और वह नहीं जानते कि अब वह क्या करें? क़रीब पांच छै साल से चपड़ा मज़दूर संघ क़ायम है और उसके अकाउन्ट में काफ़ी गड़बड़ी है, उसके सम्बन्ध में मैं अपने लेबर मिनिस्टर से इतना ही कह देना चाहता हूं कि वह जो मिर्ज़ापुर का चपड़ा मज़दूर संघ है, उसके अकाउन्ट की जांच करने के लिये कोई आदमी नियुक्त करें और उसकी जांच करें।

चौथी बात मैं अपने खेतिहर मज़दूरों के विषय में कहना चाहता हूं। मैं देखता हूं हमारे हरिहरनाथ जी शास्त्री जो लेबर लीडर हैं उन्हों ने खेतिहर मज़दूरों के विषय में एक शब्द भी नहीं कहा। पता नहीं क्या बात है कि जितने भी सदस्य यहां बोले हैं, सिवा हरिजन सदस्यों के, उन में से किसी ने भी खेतिहर मज़दूरों के सम्बन्ध में कुछ नहीं बोले हैं। हां हरिजन सदस्य जितने रहे हैं वह ज़रूर बोले हैं। क्या इसी लिये कि खेतिहर मज़दूर हरिजनों के बीच में से आते हैं। लेकिन मैं सभी भाइयों को बतलाना चाहता हूं कि खेतिहर मज़दूरों की समस्या हरिजनों की समस्या नहीं है, आप के देश की समस्या है, राष्ट्र की समस्या है और इस पर सभी को बोलना चाहिये सभी को इन्टरैस्ट लेना चाहिये। अगर हम में से कुछ बोलते भी हैं तो हमारी कोई पूछ नहीं होती। हमारी कोई आवाज़ नहीं है, अगर आप खेतिहर मज़दूरों के विषय में कुछ इन्टरैस्ट लेंगे तभी कुछ उन के लिये हो सकता है। न हरिहर नाथ जी बोले न बिहार के सदस्य बोले, न बंगाल के लेबर लीडर बोले, कोई हमारे खेतिहर मज़दूरों के विषय में इन्टरैस्ट ही नहीं लेता।

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : हम बोले हैं ।

Shri Ramanand Das: I have spoken from Bengal.

श्री रूप नारायण : खैर मैं सभी मैम्बरों से अपील करूंगा और सभी लेबर लीडरों से भी अपील करूंगा कि वह लोग भी इस समस्या को सोचें । खेतिहर मजदूरों की समस्या बहुत बड़ी समस्या है । मैं देखता हूं कि जब भी कोई कारखानों में काम करने वाले मजदूरों का सवाल होगा, उन के काम करने का समय तय होगा तो सभी ध्यान देते हैं । और अगर कहीं उन के काम करने का समय आध घंटा भी बढ़ गया तो वह स्ट्राइक कर देते हैं, और गवर्नमेंट भाग कर क़ानून बनाती है, लेकिन हमारे खेतिहर मजदूरों की क्या हालत है ? आज अगर बारह बजे रात को जरूरत पड़े तो उस को घर से बुलाया जायगा । खेती का कोई काम कराना है सामान लाना है, यह सब काम उन को चौबीसों घंटे लगे रहते हैं । अगर वह इससे इन्कार करें तो उन पर ज्यादतियां की जाती हैं, उन को गांव से निकाला जाता है, उन की बेइज्जती की जाती है, तरह तरह की मुसीबतें उन पर डाली जाती हैं । इस विषय में यहां पर कुछ नहीं कहा गया । फैक्टरी के मजदूरों के लिये हम देखते हैं कि मिनिमम वेजेज ऐक्ट बनाया गया अब लोग कहते हैं कि उन के लिये फ़ेअर वेजेज ऐक्ट बन रहा है । लेकिन क्या कभी किसी ने सोचा है कि खेतिहर मजदूर कितना पाता है, हर आये दिन हम देखते हैं कि एक मुट्ठी दाना देकर उस से दिन भर काम लिया जाता है, कहीं सिर्फ़ शरबत पिला कर ही काम लिया जाता है, कहीं छः आने मजदूरी दी जाती है, कहीं दो बीघा खेत दे कर साल भर तक उस से मुफ्त काम लिया जाता है । इस तरह की भिन्न भिन्न मजदूरियां दी जाती हैं, वह मुसीबतें हैं लेकिन उनको कौन देखता है ? वैलफ़ेअर आफ़िसर्स बनाये जाते हैं, लेकिन क्या कभी खेतिहर मजदूरों के लिये भी वैलफ़ेअर आफ़िसर्स बनाये गये ? कोई कमेटी बनाई गई जो कि गांव, जिलों या रीजनों में इस तरह का आफ़िसर या डिपार्टमैन्ट शुरू करे जैसे कि आप का एम्प्लायमेन्ट एक्स्चेन्ज है ? आज उस की कोई जरूरत नहीं है, क्योंकि उस को कोई आथिरिटी नहीं दी गई है, वहां आदमी जाते हैं और कहते हैं कि हम से यह काम कराइये, तो वह खाली नाम भेज देते हैं । और उन के पास जवाब आ जाता है कि हमारे पास जगह नहीं है । और अगर कहीं जगह है भी तो कह दिया जाता है कि सूटेबल कैंडिडेट नहीं है । इस मामले में एम्प्लायमेन्ट आफ़िसर को कोई अथारिटी नहीं है । डी० एम० उस को डांट देता है, वह कहता है हम जिस को चाहेंगे लेंगे । जब ऐसी हालत है तो एम्प्लायमेन्ट आफ़िसर को रखने की क्या जरूरत है । आप को उस से खेतिहर मजदूरों के आर्गेनाइजेशन का काम लेना चाहिये, और खेतिहर मजदूरों का काम आप को एम्प्लायमेन्ट एक्स्चेन्ज को सौंपना चाहिये । हर जगह डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में एम्प्लायमेन्ट एक्स्चेन्ज काम कर रहे हैं, अगर यह काम आप उस को सौंप दें तो कोई पैसे का भी खर्च नहीं है ।

अब आप खेतिहर मजदूर के हाउसिंग की प्राबलेम को लीजिये । उन को मकान नहीं चाहिये । मैं तो कहता हूं कि आप उन को रहने के लिये आधी एकड़ जमीन दे दीजिये । आज वह कभी किसी के मकान के सामने पड़े रहते हैं, किसी छप्पर के नीचे गुजर कर लेते हैं, सड़क पर ही गुजर कर लेते हैं । इन हालतों की वजह से आज वह मरते जा रहे हैं, मिटते जा रहे हैं । उस का कारण यही है कि उस के पास रहने को जमीन नहीं है । हर एक खेतिहर मजदूर को आधी एकड़ जमीन जरूर मिलनी चाहिये । गवर्नमेन्ट कह सकती है कि गांव सभाओं को यह काम दे देंगे, लेकिन गांव सभाओं से यह समस्या हल नहीं हो सकती । पंचायत के जरिये यह काम नहीं

[श्री रूप नारायण]

हो सकता। यह काम खुद गवर्नमेन्ट को अपने हाथ में लेना चाहिये। गांव गांव में इस की सूची बननी चाहिये कि वहां कितने खेतिहर मजदूर हैं, उन की सूची बन जाने के बाद उन को जमीन दी जानी चाहिये, उस के बाद सोचा जाना चाहिये कि उन का घर बनाने के लिये क्या किया जाय।

हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश में अब तक यह होता था कि जो खेतिहर मजदूर हुआ करते थे उन को लोग अपने खेत जोतने को दे देते थे, लेकिन उत्तर प्रदेश में अब यह हो गया है कि खेत उसी का होगा जो उस को जोतेगा। इस का फल यह हुआ कि जो मालिक खेतिहर मजदूरों को खेत दिये हुए थे अब वह उन को उन से छुड़ा रहे हैं। विधान में यह है कि जो भी तीन वर्ष से खेत जोत रहा है वह खेत उस का होगा। इस सम्बन्ध में पटवारियों ने वहां पर क्या किया कि आदमी कई वर्षों से खेत जोत भी रहा है लेकिन खेत उस के नाम से लिखवाया। खैर, इस को भी आप जाने दीजिये। वहां पर यह भी हो रहा है कि खेत खेतिहर मजदूर के नाम से भी है, लेकिन फिर भी मालिक उस पर जबर्दस्ती क़ब्ज़ा कर रहा है क्योंकि कोई खेतिहर मजदूर ऐसा नहीं है जो अपने अधिकारों की रक्षा कर सके। मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि इस के लिये हमारी सरकार ने क्या किया। आखिर आज किस अधिकार से, किस अथारिटी से मजदूरों के साथ जबर्दस्ती की जा रही है, आज इस तरह के हजारों काम हो रहे हैं लेकिन कोई सुनने वाला नहीं है। गवर्नमेन्ट को चाहिये कि इस के लिये स्टेप ले।

अब मैं खेतिहर मजदूरों की शिक्षा के विषय पर आता हूं। हम देखते हैं कि हरिजनों की शिक्षा के लिये प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है, लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि गांव गांव में जो खेतिहर मजदूर खेती का काम करते हैं उन के लिये प्राइमरी शिक्षा या मिडल स्कूल तक की शिक्षा अनिवार्य कर देनी चाहिये। यू० पी० में अनिवार्य शिक्षा नहीं है मगर मजदूर उस से फ़ायदा उठा सकते हैं। हायर एजुकेशन को चलाने की बात तो बाद की है, लेकिन अगर कम से कम मजदूर शिक्षित हो जाते हैं और बेसिक शिक्षा उन को मिल जाती है तो आगे चल कर उन की भी काफ़ी तरक्क़ी हो सकती है।

इस के बाद मैं ग्राम पंचायतों के विषय में कहना चाहता हूं। गांव के अधिकतर लोग खेतिहर मजदूर हैं। यू० पी० में जो पंचायतें काम करती हैं वह डिमाक्रेसी के ढंग से काम नहीं करतीं। कहा गया कि गांव वालों के लिये राम राज्य हो गया, गांव वाले खुद ही अपने सब मामले आपस में तय कर लेंगे। लेकिन गांव की पंचायत में जो मेम्बर लोग बैठते हैं तो क्या होता है ? विधान क्या है कि जो सरपंच होगा वह और तीन और आदमी बैठेंगे, जैसे कि कोर्ट में होते हैं, उन की एक बैंच बन जाती है। सब कुछ सुनने के बाद वह अलग चले जाते हैं, वहां कोई और गांव का आदमी नहीं जा सकता है, और अलग बैठ कर फ़ैसला करते हैं। मेरा कहना यह है कि जितने गांव सभा के सदस्य हों, या पंचायत के सदस्य हों उन को सब के सामने बैठ कर फ़ैसला करना चाहिये, फ़ैसला जो मेजारिटी से हो वही माना जाना चाहिये। इस से खेतिहर मजदूर का भी फ़ायदा हो सकता है। अगर पंचायत में बैठ कर तीन चार आदमी अलग फ़ैसला देंगे उस से खेतिहर मजदूरों का कोई फ़ायदा नहीं होगा। इस सम्बन्ध में स्टेट गवर्नमेन्ट को भी सोचना चाहिये और इस पंचायत ऐक्ट में फिर से परिवर्तन करना चाहिये।

पूर्वी जिलों के खेतिहर मजदूरों की समस्या यह है कि वहां आबादी बहुत ज्यादा हो गई है

और सूखे का एरिया है, हमेशा अकाल पड़ा करता है, इस से खेतिहर मजदूरों की समस्या और भी खराब हो गई है। चार क़िस्म के मजदूर मैं बता चुका हूं, उन के लिये मैं एक सजेशन देना चाहता हूं। यू० पी० का इरिगेशन विभाग बहुत अच्छा काम कर रहा है, जगह जगह पर जिले जिले में नहरें और कुंए खोदे जा रहे हैं, इस से सिंचाई की प्राबलेम तो हल हो रही है, लेकिन खेती की प्राबलेम हल हो जाने से मजदूरों की प्राबलेम हल नहीं होगी। देशों में ६०-६०, ७०,७० करोड़ तक की स्कीम चलाई जा रही हैं, लेकिन रिहन्द डैम को नहीं लिया गया। वह तो सिर्फ़ ४० करोड़ की स्कीम है, अगर उस को बना दिया जाता है तो हमारे प्रान्त के पूर्वी जिले और आस पास के बिहार के अठारह बीस जिले बिजली से बिल्कुल पूर्ण किये जा सकते हैं और वहां नये नये उद्योग धंधे खोले जा सकते हैं और खेतिहर मजदूर जो आज बेकार हैं उन में लगाये जा सकते हैं। इस लिये मैं अनुरोध करूंगा कि इस रिहन्द डैम की स्कीम को चला कर के पूर्वी जिलों के खेतिहर मजदूरों को रिलीफ़ दी जाय।

श्री बी० एन० कुरील (जिला प्रतापगढ़–पश्चिम व जिला रायबरेली–पूर्व–रक्षित-अनुसूचित जातियां): सभापति महोदय, आप ने मुझे इस लेबर जैसे विषय पर अपने विचार सदन के सामने रखने का अवसर दिया है इसके लिये धन्यवाद है।

इसमें कोई सन्देह नहीं और यह किसी से छिपा नहीं कि स्वतंत्रता की प्राप्ति के बाद से अब तक लेबर मिनिस्ट्री ने लेबर को व्यवस्थित करने के लिये कई एक क़दम उठाये हैं और यह भी किसी से छिपा नहीं है कि इस में बहुत कुछ सफलता भी मिली है। लेबर को सुव्यवस्थित कर लिया गया है और काम चलने लगा है लेकिन लेबरर्स की सहूलियतों की ओर कुछ भी ध्यान नहीं दिया गया है। शहर की इंडस्ट्रीज़ के मजदूरों को तो कुछ सहूलियतें ज़रूर मिली हैं। उन की शिक्षा का प्रबन्ध हो गया है, उन की ट्रेनिंग और उन के मकानों की भी कुछ व्यवस्था ठीक हुई है। इसके लिये धन्यवाद है। जैसा पहले भी कहा गया है देश में एक बहुत बड़ा तबक़ा है, एक बहुत बड़ा वर्ग है, जिसे पिछड़ा हुआ वर्ग कहते हैं, हरिजन वर्ग कहते हैं और यह लोग किसी न किसी रूप में मजदूरी ही करते हैं। उनके स्टैंडर्ड को ऊंचा उठाने के लिये उनकी उन्नति के लिये सरकार ने कुछ भी ध्यान नहीं दिया है। यह हर एक भाई को मालूम है। यहां इस सम्मानित सदन में जितने सदस्य मौजूद हैं उनमें से अधिकतर देहाती क्षेत्र से आये हुए हैं। उन को अच्छी तरह से मालूम है कि वहां मजदूरों की क्या हालत है। सभापति महोदय, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि यह एक बहुत बड़ा वर्ग है। यह पिछड़ा हुआ ऐसा वर्ग है जिसको आज से नहीं सदियों से दबाया और सताया गया है और साधन हीन कर दिया गया है। उसको दिमाग़ी तौर से इतना कमज़ोर कर दिया गया है कि वह आज अपने आप उठ नहीं सकता, अपने स्टैंडर्ड को ऊंचा नहीं कर सकता जब तक सरकार की ओर से उसे अच्छी सहूलियतें न दी जायं। मुझे तो दुःख होता है कि शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट और शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब कमिश्नर ने अपनी सन् १९५२ की रिपोर्ट में पहले पन्ने पर ही यह लिखा है कि इस वर्ग ने अपनी आदतों के कारण समाज में अपना सम्मान खो दिया है। काश वह भुक्तभोगी होते तो वह समझ सकते कि उनकी क्या क्या कठिनाइयां हैं। हमारी पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत इस देश को ऊंचा उठाने की कोशिश हो रही है और हमारी शुभ कामनायें हैं कि वह प्रयत्न ज़रूर सफल हों। लेकिन मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि जब तक यह इतना बड़ा समुदाय पीछे पड़ा रहेगा तब तक यह देश

[श्री बी० एन० कुरील]

कभी उन्नति नहीं कर सकता और न दूसरों की नजरों में उन्नतिशील समझा जा सकता है। यह एक बहुत बड़ा वर्ग है और इसकी एक गम्भीर समस्या है और अगर यह इसी तरह से पीछे पड़ा रहा तो राष्ट्र रूपी शरीर में यह एक जख्म के रूप में हो जायगा। और यह भी हो सकता है कि इस जख्म में कुछ समय बाद जर्म्ज़ पैदा हो जांय जो कि इस राष्ट्र रूपी शरीर को भीतर ही भीतर खोखला कर दें और सरकार को इसका पता भी न लगे। तो मेरा यह कहना है कि यह समस्या गम्भीर है और इस पर जरूर ध्यान दिया जाय।

मुझे दो एक बातें और कहनी हैं। एक तो यह है कि अभी तक देहातों में बेगार की प्रथा जारी है। इसके खिलाफ़ क़ानून जरूर बन गया है लेकिन उसे सरकार नें नानकागनिजेबिल आफ़ेंस रखा है। मैं नहीं समझता कि जब सरकार इसको अपने तौर से बन्द करना चाहती है और वास्तव में बन्द करना चाहती है तो फिर क्या वजह है कि उसको कागनिजेबिल आफेंस नहीं मानती। मैं लेबर मिनिस्टर साहब से अपील करूंगा कि वह इस पर ध्यान दें और जरूर इसको कागनिजेबिल आफेंस बनाने की कोशिश करें।

दूसरी चीज मुझे यह कहनी है कि इस देश में इसेंशियल सरविसेज ऐक्ट लागू है। जब कि यह देश स्वतंत्र है और हर तरह से हर बात में, हर शब्द में अपने फंडामेंटल राइट्स की दुहाई देता है, तब भी इस देश में यह काला क़ानून मौजूद है जिसके जरिये से किसी जाति को, किसी वर्ग विशेष को, एक पेशा करने के लिये बाध्य किया जा सकता है। और सभापति महोदय, इस हाउस को अच्छी तरह से मालूम है कि यह ऐक्ट महतरों पर किस तरह से लागू है और उनको किस तरह से जकड़े हुए है। वह अपने अधिकारों की भी अच्छी तरह से मांग नहीं कर सकते और अपने अधिकारों को पाने के लिये हड़ताल वग़ैरह भी नहीं कर सकते। यह किसी से छिपा नहीं है।

तो यह दो एक चीजें ऐसी हैं जिन पर सरकार को अधिक ध्यान देना चाहिये। और बातें तो पहले ही कही जा चुकी हैं। मैं और अधिक समय न लेकर आपको धन्यवाद देता हूं।

Shri Veeraswamy: It is my privilege to speak on labour problems as I belong to the Scheduled Castes, the labouring communities, who are the most oppressed and most backward in every walk of life in this country. Ninety-nine per cent. of Scheduled Castes people are hard manual labourers, and they are engaged in all sorts of occupations which require physical exertion and exhaustion and enduring patience. As a matter of fact, in all communities there are people who are so poor that they cannot get on in life without doing any work for daily wage or weekly wages. And, in our country, I may say that the Brahmin community is the only community which does not do any hard physical labour at all. Except the Brahmin community, other people are doing manual labour. The Brahmin community is the most advanced community in every sphere of life in this country. They are the happiest people at the expense of others. The Scheduled Castes people, the sons and daughters of the soil, are the most unfortunate and the most suffering lot in every walk of life. In other communities there are also people who enjoy life with many amenities and also there are people who suffer a lot. What I say, I am afraid, will be misunderstood by some of the Members of this House. I do not have any ill-feeling or any prejudice against any particular community or individual, but I want to show the difference between one community which is at the apex of the social pyramid and another community which is at its bottom. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Prime Minister and other Members of this House to that difference. That difference must go.

Labour is the mightiest force and the greatest asset of any country. On labour depends either the progress of the country or its retardation. If a country is fertile and advanced eco-

nomically, it is because of the hard labour of the workers for generations and for centuries. The other day, our Prime Minister rightly pointed out on the floor of this House that he said in Ceylon that the progress and advancement of Ceylon was due to the toil of the Indian labourers. So, both for industrial and agricultural development of our country in which we are still far behind many Western countries, we have to look to the labourers. Without labourers we cannot achieve anything. The labourers are employed in many occupations like textile work, transport service, mining, plantation, agriculture, cottage industries and so on and so forth.

I would like to say a few words about the industries and the conditions of the workers being employed in these industries. Of all the industries in our country, I may say that the textile industry is the most important and most widespread one, which is closely connected with the economic life of the people of our country. Cotton ginning and pressing factories, and spinning and weaving factories alone provide employment to nearly five lakhs of workers. They are distributed all over the country, Bombay State being the biggest employer in this respect, as many of the textile factories are located in that State. In Tamilnad, apart from the workers employed in the textile factories, those who were engaged in handloom cottage industries till some years ago numbered about five lakhs. More than 25 lakhs of people were living by the handloom industry, which is a cottage and household occupation. But now on account of the most unsympathetic and indifferent attitude of the Government of India, there is a great slump in the handloom industry in the South, especially in Tamilnad. In Madras State, thousands of handloom weavers have been thrown out of employment, and hundreds of looms are lying idle. Thousands of people who were living a life of happiness and prosperity have now become, I am sorry to tell the House, almost regular beggars.

Mines in India employ more than 2½ lakhs of workers, the majority being in the coalfields. This afternoon, a Short Notice Question was put on the decision of the management of the Oorgam Gold Mine to close it down. I have also received a telegram from a responsible member of my community, Mr. Samidurai, M.L.A. of Madras State, stating that if that gold mine is closed down, nearly 4000 people would be thrown out of employment, and they will have to suffer quite a lot. Out of these 4000 employees in that mine, the majority—I know, I have gone and seen—are people who belong to the Scheduled Castes.

In the case of plantation industry, my hon. friend Mr. Harihar Nath Shastri pointed out that about 16,000 people have been thrown out of employment, on account of the closing down of tea plantations in Assam and Tripura. Mr. Vittal Rao has already spoken about the conditions of the workers there. Our Government told us some time ago, that these tea gardens have been closed down on account of the marked slump in the tea industry, the fall in prices, and the indifference of foreign markets to Indian tea. We all know that as a result of the closing down of the tea gardens, the workers who have been thrown out of employment from these tea plantations would be suffering quite a lot. We do not know what the Government of India have proposed to do, to mitigate the sufferings of the labourers who have been thrown out of employment from the tea gardens, and to restore normal conditions in the plantation industry.

With regard to labourers in transport services, the Indian Railways are the biggest employers giving employment to lakhs and lakhs of workers. The labourers employed in the Railways are so backward with regard to their living conditions, their food, clothing etc. that something should be done to improve their conditions.

I now come to agriculture. India is mainly an agricultural country, made up of villages. The towns are very few, and they are mostly industrial centres, as most of the industries are situated in towns. They give employment only to about three per cent. of the working population of the country, whereas agriculture provides employment to more than 85 per cent. of the rural population. But it is unfortunate that though India is an agricultural country, it has not been able to feed its people, and our Government have to go to America and other countries, with bowls, and beg for food humbly and submissively at the doors of those countries. Why this disrespectful position for India? This is a matter which merits serious consideration. The question 'Why this disrespectful condition of India?' should be put to every Minister of our Government and to every citizen of this country. Is our country short of agricultural labourers—I want to ask

[Shri Veeraswamy]

in this House? Do we not have sufficient irrigational facilities? Is it because that monsoon rains have not been regular for the past so many years? Is there not intelligence in this country to improve agriculture and increase food production? Did not our hon. Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru declare in 1948 that India should be self-sufficient in foodgrains? Did he not appeal—and as a matter of fact, is he not appealing—to the people of all shades of opinion, to interest themselves in producing more foodgrains? For the past so many years, everybody knows both in this House as well as outside, that the grow-more-food-campaign has been swallowing crores of rupees, but with what result? Hunger, starvation, starvation-deaths, and failure of the Government to feed the people, and unashamedly opening gruel centres, giving some thick water to the people who are starving, even without a single meal a day.

I can say without any fear of contradiction that agricultural labourers are not interested in proper cultivation or in the production of more foodgrains, because the lands belong to a few landlords. They do not have any bit of agricultural land, and they are agricultural landless labourers. What they produce goes to the landlords, and even the chaff is not given to them by the landlords with sympathy and kindness. The majority of the agricultural labourers have to starve for the major part of the year. Unless and until radical land reforms are introduced, or collective farming is brought into existence, as in Russia, and China, we cannot solve the food problem at any time. Why should India, I may ask, why should the Prime Minister of India lag behind to introduce land reforms?

The fact that even small land reforms can produce much enthusiasm among the agricultural labourers is evident from the Tanjore Tenancy Act of the Madras State. I wish to say in this connection that Shri Periyar E. V. Ramaswami, Leader of the Dravidian Federation, after having routed the Congress party in the last General Elections in the Madras State, especially in Tamilnad, engaged himself in a virulent propaganda for land reforms, and Shri C. Rajagopalachariar, a tried politician, and a man of profound political wisdom and diplomacy, rising to the occasion, saw that the Governor of the Madras State promulgated The Tanjore District Tenancy Protection Ordinance which gave a great impetus to the agricultural labourers. But that has not solved the problems completely. It is still to be solved fully. The Dravidian Federation has been working very hard amongst the agricultural labourers and the *misrasdars* are creating an atmosphere of cordial relationship between the labourers and the *mirasdars*. The Government of the day will never do such things, as radical land reforms, and other unlift work for the unliftment of the Scheduled Castes and other backward classes, because it is a capitalist Government; it is a reactionary Government I dare say once again that it is a reactionary and capitalist Government. To expect this Government to do such good things for the sake of the most down-trodden and poor people is just like expecting a wolf to be kind towards a lamb.

Mr. Chairman: I have already allowed 15 minutes to the hon. Member. I have rung the bell thrice so far. But the hon. Member did not mind. If he starts a new point, he will take another five minutes. He should now close.

Shri Veeraswamy: Just one more minute, Sir.

6 P.M.

The hon. Minister, Mr. V. V. Giri, is a tried trade union leader. I request him not to think in terms of his Ministership in the Central Government. I request him to champion the cause of the labourers. He has been in the field of labour activities for the past so many years and he has already been the Minister of Labour in the Madras State Government. I again humbly request him to see that everything possible is done for the welfare of the labourers. I request him to give scholarships to the students belonging to the labour community for their education not only in high schools but also in colleges—professional colleges, arts and technological colleges. I request him to see that creches are opened in every industry and paid leave is granted to women workers at least for six months, that is, maternity leave—three months before delivery and three months after delivery. In the French pockets in India the foreign Government gives a 'child' allowance at the rate of Rs. 12 till 12 years of age. Why not our Government also give a child allowance to the labourers' children? Medical advice and instructions on hygiene and sanitation should also be given once in a week to workers because they are living in a horrible condition. May 1st is a festival day for labourers all over the world. But our Government has not declared

May 1st as a holiday for labourers. So I request the hon. Minister to see that May 1st is declared as a paid holiday and not a holiday only for those people who apply in advance and who give a guarantee to work on some other day.

श्री बाल्मीकी (जिला बुलन्दशहर--रक्षित--अनुसूचित जातियां) : सभापति महोदय, आज मैं आपका हृदय से आभारी हूं कि आप ने मुझे हाउस के समक्ष अपने विचार रखने का अवसर प्रदान किया । अभी यहां पर देश की मजदूर नीति के विषय में विचार प्रकट किये गये और इस में कोई शक की बात नहीं कि हमारे देश की मजदूर नीति बहुत प्रगतिशील रही है और उसके लिये मैं अपने माननीय मंत्री को धन्यवाद देता हूं ।

साथ ही साथ उसके यह बात जरूर है कि सरकार का ध्यान मिलों में काम करने वाले मजदूरों की दशा सुधारने की ओर तो गया है, लेकिन अभी तक म्युनिस्पैलिटीज के अन्दर काम करने वाले जो मजदूर और मेहतर आदि हैं सरकार का उन की तरफ़ ध्यान नहीं गया है । मैं ने पिछले दस महीनों के अन्दर बिहार, कलकत्ता, नागपुर, बम्बई, पूना और हैदराबाद (दक्षिण) आदि की म्युनिसपैलिटीज में काम करने वाले मजदूरों की हालत को देखा है कि आज के दिन भी वह कितनी बेबसी और हीन अवस्था में अपना जीवन व्यतीत कर रहे हैं । जिन गन्दी बस्तियों के अन्दर वह लोग रहते हैं, वहां पर आपको म्युनिसिपल अॉथरिटीज की उदासीनता का नंगा नाच दिखाई पड़ेगा । वहां पर मनुष्य का जीवन एक भयानक जीवन बन गया है, नोटीफाइड एरिया, टाउन एरिया और म्युनिसपैलिटीज और कॉरपोरेशन के अन्दर काम करने वाले सभी मजदूरों की हालत बहुत ही गिरी हुई है । उनका कोई जीवनस्तर नहीं है, और वह न के बराबर है । उनको जो वेतन मिलता है वह इतना कम और अपर्याप्त होता है कि उससे मनुष्य का जीवन बड़ी कठिनता से चलता है । मैं आज सदन और सरकार का ध्यान उन लाखों और करोड़ों मजदूर भाइयों की हीन तथा दयनीय हालत की तरफ़ खींचना चाहता हूं जो म्युनिसिपैलिटीज में काम कर रहे हैं । जब तक आप उनकी अवस्था को सुधारने की तरफ़ ध्यान नहीं देते तब तक जन समुदाय का एक बड़ा भाग दिन पर दिन अवश्य अवनति को प्राप्त होता जायगा । आज उनकी हालत बहुत नाजुक है और उनका जीवन इतना कठिन है कि इतना आवश्यक तथा जन-हित का कार्य करने के बावजूद भी मजदूर की श्रेणी में उनकी गिनती भी नहीं की जाती है । सन् १९५० में भी मैं ने उन मेहतरों की दयनीय दशा के बारे में अपने विचार प्रकट किये थे और उन मजदूरों को कुछ जरूरी सहूलियतें देने की अपील की थी, और मजदूरों की श्रेणी में लाने की अपील की थी किन्तु खेद है कि अभी तक कुछ नहीं हो पाया है और वह पूर्ववत् अवस्था में रह रहे हैं ।

मैं आप का ध्यान इस ओर खींचना चाहता हूं कि किस तरह एक भंगी जो समाज का एक सच्चा सेवक है, उसकी अवहेलना की जाती है और काम देखिये कि कितने नीचे स्तर पर उसके कंधों पर है । और मैं यहां पर बापू जी के शब्दों को दुहरा देना चाहता हूं :

"It is the *bhangi* who enables the Society to live. A *bhangi* does for society, what a mother does for her baby. A mother washes her baby and the dirt and insures his health: even so the *bhangi* protects and safeguards the entire community by maintaining sanitation for it."

महात्मा गांधी जी के इन शब्दों में कितनी सच्चाई है और यह ही नहीं आगे वह यह कहते हैं :

"The *bhangi* has been the most despised of the Harijans, because his work has been regarded as most degrading."

[श्री बाल्मीकि]

हम महात्मा गांधी जी के हृदय से आभारी हैं, क्योंकि उनका ध्यान इस गिरी हुई जाति को उठाने की ओर सब से पहले गया और यह उन्हीं के निरन्तर प्रयत्न और प्रयास का फल है कि आज समाज में एक प्रकार की भावना का उदय हो गया है कि भंगियों को ऊपर उठाया जाय, लेकिन जितने भी प्रयत्न इस दिशा में आज तक हुए हैं, वह ना के बराबर हैं। इसके लिये अलग अलग सूबों में जैसे बम्बई, उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार में इनक्वायरी कमेटीज़ बिठाई गई हैं और उन्हों ने अपनी रिपोर्ट्स भी इस सम्बन्ध में दीं। हमारे सूबे के अन्दर खेर कमेटी, बम्बई के अन्दर बरवे कमेटी मेहतरों की हालत की जांच के लिये बैठीं और दूसरे सूबों में भी इसी प्रकार की कमेटियां बैठीं, लेकिन उनकी सिफ़ारिशों को कहीं भी अमल में नहीं लाया जा रहा है। मैं अपनी जानकारी के बिना पर कहना चाहता हूं कि अगर बम्बई की बरवे कमेटी ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में जो सिफ़ारिशें की हैं उन पर ध्यान दिया जाय और अमल किया जाय तो मेहतरों की हालत बहुत कुछ सुधर सकती है। केवल रिपोर्ट बना देने से तो काम नहीं चलता, उन को कामयाबी से अमल में लाने के लिये रुपये की ज़रूरत होती है और मुश्किल यह है कि हमेशा म्युनिसिपैलिटीज़ और प्रान्तीय सरकारें सभी अपने यहां रुपये की कमी बतलाती हैं और हमारी अपनी केन्द्रीय सरकार का भी ध्यान उधर नहीं जाता। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि बिना विलम्ब मेहतरों की अवस्था सुधारने की ओर केन्द्रीय सरकार और प्रान्तीय सरकारों को ध्यान देना चाहिये।

आज उनका जीवन बड़ा असन्तोषप्रद और घृणास्पद जीवन है, वह इतना भयावह है कि वह मानवता से बिल्कुल दूर का जीवन है जिस को देख कर आप खून के आंसू बहाये बिना नहीं रह सकते। नई देहली में गांधी जी ने तीस अक्टूबर १९४६ के प्रवचन में भंगियों की हालत के सम्बन्ध में यह शब्द कहे थे : "मैं इस बात पर ज़ोर दूंगा कि पाखाना कमाने के बरतनों और झाड़ू वग़ैरह चीज़ों के लिये ज़रूरी क़ानून ही बन जाने चाहिये, ताकि मैले और कूड़े करकट को हाथ लगाने की ज़रूरत न रह जाय। साथ ही मेहतरों और भंगियों के लिये काम के वक्त पहनने की पोशाक का भी एक ऐसा सादा नमूना तय कर दिया जाय, जिससे उन्हें काम करने में आसानी हो। इन्सपेक्टरों और मुकदमों को भी सफ़ाई के इस उपयोगी काम की तालीम दी जाय। बजाय इस के कि वे अपने मातहतों से ज्यों त्यों और ज़बर्दस्ती काम लेते रहें। आज जिस तरीके से काम लिया जाता है उसमें काम कम से कम और गन्दगी ज्यादा से ज्यादा होती है, और रिश्वत-खोरी, बदमाशी और बदचलनी का ज़ोर रहता है।"

मैं आपका ध्यान इस ओर खींचना चाहता हूं कि आज कितना भ्रष्टाचार, रिश्वत, बदचलनी व अपनापन म्युनिसिपैलिटीज़, नोटीफाइडेरिया, टाउन एरिया तथा कॉरपोरेशन सब में फैला हुआ है। भ्रष्टाचार को वहां पर बहुलता है। इसको भी समूल नष्ट करने की ज़रूरत है। हमारी सरकार को इस ओर ध्यान देना चाहिये।

जब मज़दूर लोग अपनी मजबूरियों से तंग आ जाते हैं और तंग आ कर कोई क़दम उठाते हैं, और यह बात ठीक भी है कि उनको असंतोष है। उनके असन्तोष की किस को चिन्ता है ? उनकी जितनी परवाह होनी चाहिये वह नहीं होती, और अगर किसी क़दर होती भी है तो उस पर अमल नहीं किया जाता। जब वह यह देखते हैं तो उन को असन्तोष होता है, और उस असन्तोष की वजह

से उन के अन्दर एक आम चेतना आ रही है। आप देखेंगे कि उत्तर प्रदेश में आज एक वातावरण हड़ताल का चल रहा है। हालांकि मैं इस विचार का मानने वाला हूं कि मजदूरों के लिये सब से खतरनाक चीज हड़ताल है। आज हड़ताल का बहुत जोर है, लेकिन हड़ताल कोई अच्छी चीज नहीं होती है। हड़ताल में तो घाटा ही हुआ करता है, लेकिन फिर भी जब असन्तोष बढ़ता है, और जब कोई रास्ता उन के लिये नहीं रहता है तो वह यह क़दम उठाते हैं। बिहार के अन्दर भी हड़तालें हुईं। लेकिन हड़तालें होती हैं वहां की म्युनिसिपल आथारिटीज की उदासीनता तथा निकम्मेपन की वजह से। मुझ मालूम है जैसा कि मैं पहले भी कह चुका हूं कि हड़ताल से कोई फ़ायदा होने वाला नहीं है, लेकिन जब हड़ताल होती है तो उस के पीछे जो दिमाग़ है उस को समझने की ज़रूरत है, उस के पीछे जो असन्तोष है उसे दूर करने की ज़रूरत है। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि सूबे की सरकारों को यह देखना होगा कि जो म्यूनिसिपैलिटीज हैं वह अपने मजदूरों की हालत को, चाहे वह मेहतर हो या और दूसरे मजदूर, उनकी हालत को सुधारने के लिये कोई खास क़दम उठाती हैं या नहीं, लेकिन जब मजदूर क़दम उठाते हैं तो मैं समझता हूं कि एक अधिकार का प्रश्न उठ खड़ा होता है। जिस प्रकार से म्युनिसिपैलिटीज के अधिकारों की रक्षा होती है उसी प्रकार से मजदूरों के अधिकार की भी रक्षा होनी चाहिये। मजदूरों को दबने की जरूरत नहीं है क्योंकि म्युनिसिपैलिटियों ने उन को ग़ुलाम की तरह जीवन बिताने के लिये मजबूर कर दिया है। मैं यह भी जानता हूं कि सरकार की ऐसी मंशा नहीं है कि इन मजदूरों को इस गिरी हुई हालत में रक्खा जाय। लेकिन फिर भी मैं सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाना चाहता हूं कि उत्तर प्रदेश की मेहतर हड़ताल से जैसी स्थिति पैदा हो गई है उसकी वजह से सारे हिन्दुस्तान के मेहतरों के अन्दर एक उत्तेजना है। असन्तोष है। और क्रोध तथा बेचैनी है। सरकार को शीघ्रातिशीघ्र इस की ओर ध्यान देना चाहिये। अफ़सोस तो यह है कि बिहार तथा यू० पी० में इतने बड़े पैमाने पर मेहतरों की हड़तालें हुईं किन्तु १९४७ के मजदूरों के झगड़े तय करने वाले क़ानून के अनुसार यह मामला कहीं भी ट्रिब्यूनल को नहीं सौंपा गया। क्या यह न्याय-संगत है ?

I shall take two minutes only.

Mr. Chairman: What is the use of ringing the second bell? Shall I in future ring the first bell in eight minutes and then the second bell in ten minutes and the third and the fourth bell subsequently? The second bell means that the hon. Member is to finish as soon as possible.

श्री **बाल्मीकी**: इस लिये मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि म्युनिसिपल मजदूरों के प्रश्न पर खास कर केन्द्रीय सरकार को विचार करना चाहिये, और उचित क़ानून सिर्फ़ मेहतरों के लिये ही नहीं, बल्कि सभी म्युनिसिपल मजदूरों के लिये बनाना चाहिये, जिस प्रकार मिल-मजदूरों के लिये है। मजदूर सम्बन्धी सभी क़ानून इन पर लागू होने चाहियें। उन के लिये रहने के घरों का वैसे ही प्रबन्ध होना चाहिये जैसे इन्डस्ट्रियल मजदूरों के लिये है। गांधी जी ने खुद कहा था कि अगर सिर्फ़ उन के घरों को उन के रहन सहन को सुधार दिया जाय तो उन की हालत सुधर सकती है। मैं जानता हूं कि इस तरह के क़ानून की बहुत सख्त ज़रूरत है और मैं फिर सरकार का ध्यान इस की ओर खींचना चाहता हूं कि इन मजदूरों को भी वह सारी सहूलियतें मिलनी चाहियें जो आम मिल के मजदूरों को मिलती हैं।

मुझे मालूम है कि हड़ताल का सब से बड़ा कारण यह हो सकता है कि उन के वेतन बहुत

[श्री बाल्मीकी]

कम हैं। उन को उचित वेतन दिया जाय इस ओर भी ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये।

मैं इस बात के लिय अपने माननीय मंत्री महोदव को धन्यवाद देता हूं कि अब मेहतर-मजदूरों की अवहेलना नहीं की जायेगी, बल्कि उन के ऊपर भी उसी प्रकार ध्यान दिया जायेगा जैसे कि आम मिल-मजदूरों की तरफ़ दिया जाता है। उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार में जो हड़तालें हुई हैं उन के पीछे कोई राजनैतिक रंग नहीं है। इस का कारण यही था कि वहां के मेहतरों में केवल आर्थिक आधार पर असन्तोष था। उस असन्तोष की किसी ने परवाह नहीं की।

अब यू० पी० की हड़ताल खत्म हो गई है, और मैं आशा करता हूं कि यू० पी० की सरकार मेहतरों की उचित मांगों पर उदारतापूर्वक विचार करेगी और मुझे पूरा भरोसा है कि वहां अच्छी स्थिति पैदा होगी।

मैं फिर अपने माननीय मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देता हूं।

Shri Thimmaiah (Kolar—Reserved—Sch. Castes): The Labour Minister, in the morning told us something about the closing of the Kolar Gold Fields. I should like to bring to his notice that the Mining authorities, it seems are going to serve a notice on the workers on the 23rd March about the termination of their services. Particularly in the Oorgam mine which is about to be closed, there are about 3,500 workers who will become unemployed if the mine is closed and the family members nearly about 14,000 people will be affected. The area in which the mine is situated is a famine affected area and the people working there belong to the North Arcot district, which is also a famine affected area. If the mine is closed, all these 14,000 people will have to starve without food and without any means of livelihood. These labourers, from time immemorial, for generations together, have been living there and working in the mines. There are already about 300 families without employment as a result of the closing of the Brick Manufacturing Company. The Company was closed on the pretext that it was running at a loss. I bring to the notice of the hon. Minister, that on my personal enquiry there, I found that the Brick Manufacturing Company closed the factory not because it was running at a loss, but because they wanted to see that the bricks that were already in stock were disposed of. They wanted to sell those bricks and they began saying that the factory was running at a loss. Taking all these into consideration, the closing of the Oorgam mines leads to a very grave situation in that part of the Mysore State and the Government has to face the serious situation—it is also for the Central Government to face it.

The hon. Labour Minister gave an assurance in the morning that he is considering the appointment of a Commission to enquire into the inevitability of the closing of that mine. I beg to submit to him, there is one Mr. J. P. David, a retired Chief Inspector of Mines and Explosives. He is a man with full knowledge of the mines and the real working of the mines. Therefore, I request the hon. Minister to appoint him on the Commission so that he will report correctly whether the mine has to be closed or is in a position to be worked.

In this connection, I would like to appeal to Government, if possible, to take up the gold mines under their control and run them because the authorities of the gold mines are unable to run them.

About the general condition of the workers in the gold mines, they are all ill paid; they are not paid proper wages and there is no benefit of the Provident Fund Act or the Employees' State Insurance Act, because it is not yet applied to the Kolar Gold Fields. In this connection, I request the hon. Minister, at least now, to make up his mind to see that the Kolar Gold Fields get the benefit of the Provident Fund Act and the Employees' State Insurance Act. The closing of the Oorgam mine is an urgent and immediate problem to be faced by the Government. I hope the hon. the Labour Minister will give his immediate attention to this and see that people are not thrown out of employment and a grave situation does not arise in Mysore State.

I do not want to speak about the agricultural labour because many of my friends have spoken about it. I want to make two or three suggestions. In the Five Year Plan, we speak of agricultural development and we have allotted large sums of money for the development of agriculture. If the

Five Year Plan were to be successful, I request the Labour Minister to see that proper attention is paid to the agricultural labourers and the Minimum Wages Act is implemented as early as possible in the States without any delay. Five years back agricultural enquiry began and I cannot understand why even after five years the enquiry is not completed and the Act has yet to be implemented in certain States. This is an immediate and urgent need. Agricultural labour is the backbone of the country. If you want sufficient food and if you want to see the country prosperous, you must take care of these agricultural labourers. Today we have the industrial housing schemes for the industrial labourers and they have the protection of law. The condition of the agricultural labour is bad. They are paid depressing wages and their plight is really pitiable and Government is not at all paying proper attention to the improvement of the condition of these agricultural labourers. I, therefore, request him to see that the Minimum Wages Act is immediately implemented in the case of agricultural labourers and their condition is improved.

Another suggestion which I would like to make in connection with the Minimum Wages Act is that the widest publicity to it should be given in the rural areas. I understand that last year the Central Government gave a direction to the State Governments to give the widest publicity to the Minimum Wages Act. But to my knowledge no State Government has given publicity to this Act; no ryot or agricultural labourer knows about the existence of this piece of legislation. I request the hon. the Labour Minister to see that widest publicity is given to this measure through the Employment Exchanges, or Labour Bureaus, when it is going to be implemented and the benefits that would accrue by it to the agricultural labourers. This would enthuse the agricultural labourer and he will feel satisfied that his lot would be improved. Thereby we can see that the Five Year Plan is successfully implemented.

श्री पी० आर० राव (वारंगल) : हमारे मुल्क में ज़राअत एक अहम पेशा है और उसमें जो मज़दूर हैं उनकी खास अहमियत है । मज़दूर ही भविष्य में हमारे मुल्क को बनाने वाले हैं और दुनिया में जितनी भी तरक्की हुई है वह मज़दूरों की ही वजह से हुई है । लेकिन अफ़सोस है कि जिनके खून से हम ऐश व आराम की ज़िन्दगी गुज़ार रहे हैं और जिनके खून से हम अपनी ज़िन्दगी बना रहे हैं उन अपने देश के करोड़ों मज़दूरों के लिये हम कोई परवाह नहीं करते हैं। पंचवर्षीय योजना में मज़दूरों की वैलफेयर के लिये जो कुछ रक़म रखी गयी है उसको देख कर मुझे बहुत दुःख होता है क्योंकि उनके लिये सिर्फ़ ६ करोड़ और कुछ लाख रुपये वैलफेयर के लिये रखा गया है और वह भी हिन्दुस्तान की तमाम स्टेटें और सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट मिल कर पांच साल में खर्च करेंगे । यह बहुत नाजायज़ बात है । मैं तो कहूंगा कि गवर्नमेंट मज़दूरों की भलाई के लिये कोई ख्याल नहीं कर रही है और एक लफ्ज़ में कहा जाय तो वह बिल्कुल बेईमानी कर रही है । उन की रक्षा करने के लिये हुकूमत ने मिनिमम वेजेज़ ऐक्ट के नाम से एक क़ानून बनाया है लेकिन अगर इसकी असलियत को देखा जाय तो इसको मिनिमम बेजज़ ऐक्ट के बजाय अगर मैक्सिमम बोगस ऐक्ट के नाम से पुकारा जाय तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा । जो ज़राअत पेशा मज़दूर हैं वह हमारे मुल्क में करोड़ों की तादाद में हैं । १९५१ की सैंस से हमको पता चलता है कि हमारे देश में ७ करोड़ ६५ लाख ज़राअत पेशा मज़दूर हैं । इनके हाथ में ज़मीन बिल्कुल नहीं है । लेकिन मेरा तो ख्याल है कि उनकी तादाद इससे दुगनी है क्योंकि ऐसे किसानों की बहुत बड़ी तादाद है जिनके पास एक एकड़ या आधा एकड़ ज़मीन है । यह छोटे छोटे किसान हैं और यह साल में ६ या ८ महीने अपनी मेहनत फ़रोख्त करके अपना गुज़ारा करते हैं । तो यह लगभग १५ या १६ करोड़ मज़दूर हैं जो कि ज़राअत पेशा करके अपनी ज़िन्दगी गुज़ारते हैं। इन १५ या १६ करोड़ ज़राअत पेशा लोगों की रक्षा के लिये जो मिनिमम वेजेज़ ऐक्ट बनाया गया है मैं समझता हूं कि अभी तक इस विशाल देश के एक कोने में भी इसका पता नहीं है । इस ऐक्ट को १९४८

[श्री पी० आर० राव]

में बनाया गया है। लेकिन यह आज तक हमारे मुल्क में अमल में नहीं आया है। जब तनख्वाह बढ़ाने का ज़िकर करते हैं तो सरकार एक अजीबोग़रीब मंतक़ लेकर आगे बढ़ती है और कहती है कि अगर इनकी तनख़ाह बढ़ा दी जायगी तो इनफ्लेशन बढ़ जायगा। लेकिन जब पूंजीपति करोड़ों और लाखों रुपया मुनाफा हासिल करते हैं और जागीरदार और ज़मींदार लाखों रुपया हासिल करते हैं तब यह नहीं ख्याल किया जाता कि इनफ्लेशन बढ़ जायेगा। ख़ुद हमारे स्टेट में एक शख्स निज़ाम को एक करोड़ पचास लाख रुपया हुकूमत देती है। लेकिन उस ग़रीब के लिये जिस के ख़ून से यह दुनिया बन रही है और हम अपनी ज़िन्दगी गुजार रहे हैं उसकी तनख़ाह बढ़ाने के लिये हम कहते हैं कि इनफ्लेशन बढ़ जायेगा। कोई ज़रासी अक्ल रखने वाला भी इस मंतक़ को नहीं क़बूल करेगा। इस मिनिमम वेजेज ऐक्ट पर मैं ने ख़ूब सोचा कि हुकूमत ने क्यों उस को बनाया, क्या वाक़ई इसको अमल में लाने की नीयत है। मुझे मालूम होता है कि यह अवाम की आंखों में धूल डालने के लिये और दुनिया को यह बतलाने के लिये कि यह ऐक्ट बना कर हम ग़रीबों का उद्धार करना चाहते हैं महज़ इसी ख्याल से उन्हों ने यह ऐक्ट बनाया है। लेकिन आज हिन्दुस्तान का हर एक ग़रीब आदमी जानता है कि यह हमारी हुकूमत नहीं है और यह ऐक्ट हमारे लिये नहीं बनाया है। जो भी ऐक्ट कैपीटलिस्टों की रक्षा करने के लिये बनाया जाता है उसको सरकार अपनी फ़ौलादी मशीनरी के ज़रिये से अमल में लाती है लेकिन इस मिनिमम वेजेज ऐक्ट को अमल में लाने में सालहासाल गुजर रहे हैं। इससे गवर्नमेंट का मंशा साफ़ ज़ाहिर है और इस लिये अवाम के दिलों में से कांग्रेस का असर ख़त्म होता जा रहा है। वह समझते हैं कि यह जो कुछ भी कहती है करती नहीं है और जो भी क़ानून ग़रीबों के फ़ायदे के लिये बनाती है उनको अमल में नहीं लाती है।

हमारे गांव में गवर्नमेंट ने पाम गुड़ इन्डस्ट्री सेंटर्स कायम किये हैं। मैं इसका ज़िक्र इस लिये कर रहा हूं कि हुकूमत के कारोबार पर से अवाम का विश्वास क्यों दूर होता जा रहा है। हमारी गवर्नमेंट के बारे में जा कर किसी एक शख्स से दरियाफ्त कीजिये वह साफ़ कहेगा कि हुकूमत अपनी चालाकी और होशियारी को इस बात में ख़र्च करती है कि अवाम के पैसे को किस तरह फ़िज़ूल तरीके से ख़र्च किया जाय। ऐसा करने के लिये हुकूमत के जो मिनिस्टर हैं वह अपना दिमाग़ लड़ा रहे हैं। इस लिये नहीं कि इस पैसे को नेक काम में ख़र्च करें बल्कि इस लिये कि किस तरह इसको फ़िज़ूल के कामों में ख़र्च करें। हमारे यहां दो साल से यह सेंटर क़ायम है लेकिन कोई फ़ायदेमन्द काम नहीं किया गया है और फ़िज़ूल लोगों को बिठा कर तनख़ाह दी जा रही है। इस से जनता को विश्वास हो गया है कि यह काम सरकार महज़ लाखों लोगों को बिठाकर खिलाने के लिये कर रही है। आज हुकूमत से अवाम का मुतालबा है कि हमको काम बताओ। यह भीख मांगना नहीं है। अगर आपको हुकूमत संभालनी है तो आपकी यह ज़िम्मेदारी है कि आप लोगों को काम बतायें। नहीं तो ज़िम्मेदारी से हट कर आपको चला जाना चाहिये। आज अवाम आपके रहमोकरम पर मुनहसिर नहीं रहना चाहता है। वह आज पहले की तरह कीड़े मकोड़े की तरह मरने को तैयार नहीं है। अगर आप उनका मतालबा पूरा करते हैं तो चाहे कांग्रेस रहे या कम्युनिस्ट रहें इससे उनकी ग़रज़ नहीं। उनको खाना दो, कपड़ा दो। यह मामुली मुतालबा है। इस को हर एक इन्सान अपना पैदायशी हक़ समझ सकता है। अगर उसको आप काम

नहीं बतायेंगे तो क्या वह चुपके से मर जायगा ? कभी नहीं । हुकूमत का फ़र्ज है कि जनता को काम बताये । अगर हुकूमत काम नहीं बता सकती है तो वह गद्दी छोड़ दे ।

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

इस से पहले बहुत से मैम्बर्स ने इस बात को वाजह किया है कि खेत मजदूरों की वेजेज़ इतनी कम हैं कि औरत मजदूरनियां चार आने पर काम करती हैं । खुद हमारे गांव में ढाई आने से चार आने तक उन की मजदूरी है । भला बतलाइये कि वह कैसे ज़िन्दगी गुज़ार सकती हैं । और गुरबत इस हद तक पहुंच गई है कि एक बेचारी मजदूरी के लिये चली गयी तो वहां एक दरख्त के नीचे उसका प्रसव हुआ । इस से हम अन्दाजा लगा सकते हैं कि क्या कोई औरत जो प्रसव होने के लिये बिलकुल तैयार थी वह मजदूरी के लिये क्या जा सकती थी? कभी नहीं । लेकिन पेट का मसला हल होना मुश्किल था, इसलिये उसको मजदूरी के लिये जाना पड़ा और वहीं खेत में दरख्त के नीचे उसको प्रसव करना पड़ा । ऐसी घटनाओं पर , हमारे देश की दुर्दशा देख कर दिल कांप उठता है । लेकिन हमारे नेता बिल्कुल भूल गये कि उनकी जिम्मेदारी उन के सिर पर क्या है और क्या हो रहा है । आप रिवौल्यूशन से डरते हैं । आप अमन के नाम से गीत गाते हैं । ला एंड आर्डर को कायम करने के लिये आप लोगों को दबाना और कुचलना चाहते हैं । लेकिन यह अमन कैसे कायम होगा । किसी को डराने से डरा कर समझाने से अमन कायम नहीं हो सकता है । हमारा फ़र्ज यह है कि उन को काम बतायें और माकूल तनख्वा दें । फ़र्ज क्या है इस को देखना है । अपने फरायज़ का जब तक आप अंजाम नहीं दे सकते तब तक यह गीत गाने से मंत्र जपने से और गांधीजी का नाम वगैरह लेने से या जुल्म ढाने से काम नहीं चलेगा । और अमन भी कायम नहीं होगा । बल्कि गद्दी संभालना तक मुश्किल होगा ।

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : मुझे भी बहुत कुछ कहना था, लेकिन इस में मेरे लिये ऐसी आपत्ति की जाती है कि जब मैं बोलना चाहता हूं तो कुल पांच सात मिनट मिलते हैं । तो खैर कुछ हर्ज नहीं राज आप का है ।

तो आज इस लेबर के बारे में हमारे कई अछूत भाइयों ने कहा है और अछूतों के लिये अच्छी तरह से आवाज़ उठाई है तो मुझे अच्छा मालूम होता है क्योंकि आज हमारे यहां ९० परसैंट मैजारिटी अछूतों की है । जब हम बोलने जाते हैं और कहते हैं कि यह अछूतों का सवाल है, तो यह अछूतों का सवाल आपने, आप लोगों ने ही बनाया और यह देश में जो छूतछात का पाप है, यह आप के सर पर है । इस की वजह से जो दुःख है, रंज है, यह जो कलंक हिन्दुस्तान में हैं, इसे निकालने की आपकी जिम्मेदारी है । इसलिये हर वक्त मुझे इस बारे में बोलना पड़ता है मुझे यह खराब भी लगता है । हमारे पंडित नहरूजी बड़ी बड़ी लम्बी चौड़ी बातें करते हैं और इसी तरह की इंटरनैशनल स्पीचेज़ करते हैं कि कोरिया में ऐसा हो रहा है । (अन्तर्बाधा) स्पीकर महोदय, मैं आप को बताना चाहता हूं कि यह जो लोग बातें कर रहे हैं इन को कृपा करके शान्त रखें इन के बोलने की कोई जरूरत नहीं है । हमारे पंडित जी कहते हैं कि साउथ अफ़्रीका में यह हो रहा है, वह हो रहा है । लेकिन साउथ अफ़्रीका क्या, यदि हिन्दुस्तान में दलित लेबरर्स को देखें, गरीब लोगों को देखें, भंगियों को देखें तो उनकी हालत कितनी खराब है, पहले उसको हटा दें । फिर आप लम्बी चौड़ी बातें करें । इस वास्ते, स्पीकर महोदय मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि···

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How does South Africa come in?

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : मैं जो थोड़ी थोड़ी बात करने लगता हूं तो लोग चिल्लाते हैं।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Member may go on with labour.

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : मैं लेबर का ही, मजदूरों का ही सवाल लेता हूं। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि कोल माइन्स का सवाल लीजिये, फैक्टरी लैबरर्स का सवाल लीजिये चमड़े की, लैदर की जो टैनरीज हैं शुगर फैक्टरीज हैं उन के सवाल को लीजिये, सब जगह दुनिया में लेबर ही लेबर हैं। मजदूरों का सवाल, गरीबों का सवाल उठाने के लिये हमारे देश के लोग बड़ी बड़ी गद्दी पर बैठे हुए हैं, लाट साहब बन कर राज चला रहे हैं। यह राज चलने के लायक नहीं है। मेरे भाइयों ने कहा कि हम को काम नहीं मिलता, आप काम नहीं दे सकते तो इस्तीफ़ा दे दें, चुप चाप बैठ जायें। आप के ऊपर ही देश की जिम्मेदारी नहीं है। हम भी देश का सवाल जानते हैं। मजदूरों का आप की तरफ से ठीक काम नहीं हुआ। हमारे स्वीपर और दलित भाई हैं उन के बारे में ब्राह्मण भाई पंडितजी चेयरमैन बन जाते हैं। मजदूरों के काम का ब्राह्मण से क्या सम्बन्ध ? चेयरमैन तो उसी को होना चाहिये जो कि उस काम को जानता है। यह जो हमारे बड़ी बड़ी इंडस्ट्री वाले लैबर के लीडर बने हुए हैं वह लैबर का सवाल क्या जानते हैं। बस वह कांग्रेस के पिट्ठू का नारा लगाते हैं। लेकिन वह क्या जानते हैं यह मैं पंडित हरीहरनाथ शास्त्री से पूछना चाहता हूं जो ऐसे बड़े लोग हैं। स्पीकर महोदय, इन लोगों ने कोई लेबर का काम नहीं किया मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या कभी वे भंगी के घर में गये कभी इन्होंने वहां काम किया ? बस हमारे बीच उन्होंने फूट डाल दी और लीडर बन गये। यह हमारे जो सोशियलिस्ट भाई हैं काम्युनिस्ट हैं उनका जहां तक लेबर का सवाल है और जहां तक हम उनसे सहमत है, वहां तक हम उनको सहायता देंगे। आप लोग तो हमारे यहां ऐसी गन्दगी करेंगे, हम को धोखा देंगे और हम गरीबों को उद्धार नहीं करेंगे। आप इन गरीबों के मकान देखिये इन की बस्तियां देखिये, उनका सैनीटेशन देखिये, क्या हालत है। हमारे कोल माइन्स की फैक्टरी है। वहां हैदराबाद की तरफ़ और बंगाल में भी है, आप जहां भी जाइये, डाक्टर अम्बेदकर साहब ने कानून बनाया, तब कुछ हुआ है। हमारे लेबर मिनिस्टर जगजीवन राम जी ने कानून पास कर दिया, लेकिन यह अमल में कहां आते हैं। बहुत वेजेज के कानून बनाये, उन के लिये मकानों के लिये कानून बनाए, खाने पीने के लिये कानून बनाये, सब बन गये हैं, लेकिन अमल में नहीं आते हैं। यह अमल में क्यों नहीं आते हैं ? इसलिये कि ऐडमिनिस्ट्रेशन बहुत खराब है। यह बड़े बड़े आई० सी० ऐस०. अफसर बन गये, उन से क्या हो रहा है ? वे चार चार हज़ार रुपये ले रहे हैं। वही राज चला रहे हैं। मैं बहुत सी बातें कहना चाहता हूं, लेकिन समय बहुत कम है। और जब मैं राजभोज खड़ा होता हूं तो आप पांच ही मिनट देते हैं। और आप लोग इतना शोर करते हैं।

तो इसलिये मैं डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, आप से कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारे लेबर मिनिस्टर एक्सपीरियन्स्ड हैं। मैं जानता हूं कि हमारे मिनिस्टरों में बहुत से ऐसे हैं जो कुछ एकसपीरियन्स वाले नहीं हैं, और बहुत लोगों को एक्सपीरियन्स नहीं है। उन की आड़ में सैक्रेटरी लोग ही देश का राज चला रहे हैं, मिनिस्टर नहीं। वह बेचारे क्या जानते हैं। गिरि साहब को थोड़ा बहुत एक्सपीरियन्स है।

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : थोड़ा ही ?

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : थोड़ा कहें, बहुत कहें, लेकिन है उन को एक्सपीरियन्स । उन को मैं एक अपील करना चाहता हूं कि वह अपने एम्पलायमेंट एक्सचेंज में थोड़ा सा सुधार करें । वहां बहुत खराबी हो रही है । लोग वहां जाते हैं और उनको नौकरी भी नहीं मिल पाती । उन को घंटों खड़ा रहना पड़ता है । उस में अन्धेर नगरी चौपट राजा का सा हाल होता है ।

कुछ माननीय सदस्य : उस में थोड़ा हो रहा है ।

श्री पी० एन० राजभोज : हो रहा है तो में कहूंगा, यह नहीं कि मैं हर वक्त गाली दूं तो इस वास्ते मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि एम्पलायमेंट एक्सचेंज में शेड्यूल्ड कास्टस के लिये आप की तरफ़ से बहुत कुछ काम नहीं होता है ।

दूसरी चीज़ यह है कि हमारे अछूत भाइयों के बारे में बहुत कहा जा चुका है । मैं तो अपने अछूत भाइओं से, स्वीपर्स से और मेहतर भाइयों से अपील करता हूं कि आप काम करना छोड़ दो, इनको करने दो । हम क्यों करते रहें । काम करने का हम क्यों ठेका लिये रहें, क्या हमारे बाप-दादा ने इस काम को करने का ठेका लिया है कि हमीं करते जायें ? तो भंगियों का काम हम को छोड़ना चाहिये क्योंकि सब जगह तो यह दूसरे बड़े बड़े अफसर बैठे हुए हैं और कहते हैं कि मजदूरों के लिये बैठे हैं । फ़िर थोड़ा बहुत जो हम को मिला है तो हमने बहुत झगड़ा किया है तब मिला है । यह नहीं कि कोई बहुत प्रेम से इन्होंने हम को दे दिया है ।

तो मेरी हाउस से यह प्रार्थना है कि कम से कम इस देश के मजदूरों की हालत सब दृष्टि से देखें, उन के खाने पीने की दृष्टि से, रहन सहन की दृष्टि से, मकान की दृष्टि से, सेनीटेशन की दृष्टि से और तनख्वाह की दृष्टि से । फ़िर आप के जो कानून हैं वह अमल में आने चाहिये । यह नहीं आते हैं । इसी वास्ते हमारी अपील है कि आप जल्दी से जल्दी यह काम करें । (इस समय फ़िर घंटी बजी) अच्छा मैं आप को धन्यवाद देता हूं और यही कहता हूं कि आप इन कानूनों को अमल में लावें ।

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): I am very grateful to the Members opposite and to the Members on this side of the House for the very illuminating speeches that they have made in this debate and for the constructive suggestions and critical observations that they have offered and I wish to assure them that all their suggestions will not only be remembered but examined in a most critical manner. I am certain that my friends opposite—I refer to those who are interested in labour problems—will do me justice when I say that whenever and wherever they had any difficulties or when they had any requests to put forward before me with regard to various disputes and differences that existed in any part of this country, I have attended to them and gone into matters along with them and tried to do my best. Not that I expect thanks for what I have done. It is my duty to do so and I have no right to expect thanks.

During the last Budget session, I made a promise that I would not proceed with the Labour Relations Bill till I knew the opinions of the workers' organisations, employers' organisations and public opinion. I also promised that the Government would issue a questionnaire dealing with industrial relations and I am very glad to say that the replies to the questions which were in a detailed manner were of the greatest assistance to the Government. Later, I promised to place the questionnaire and the replies before the Tripartite Conference at Nainital in October. I am glad to say that all the representatives of the Central organisations of workers and those of employers went into the matters in a detailed manner, discussed at great length and there is a good deal of unanimity on many of the fundamental issues relating to industrial relations. It was felt at that conference that instead of a big body like the whole Tripartite Conference going into some of the important aspects on which further clarification was needed, a seven-man Committee be appointed, four representing the Central organisations of workers and three representing employers presided over by me. We met in December for three or four days, sat together, got into details, and I am

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glad to say that there was great unanimity on most of the fundamental issues.

Then, the Government called the State Labour Ministers who have concurrent responsibilities with the Central Government in the administration of labour laws and they met in February last and sat for two days and came to certain understandings. Now, the stage has been set for me to deal with my hon. colleagues, the Ministers of 'employing Ministries', and I am trying to understand their point of view and they are trying to understand mine to try and see whether we can put forward a legislation which will be generally acceptable. I nearly made a promise that I would be in a position to introduce the Bill during the Budget session. Even now, I have not lost hope but at the same time I must say that if, for any reason, I am not able to introduce the Bill during this session, certainly it will be introduced in the July session of Parliament. During the last ten months, therefore, I have been busy, have not taken things easily in dealing with matters regarding industrial relations.

I would now deal with certain fundamental aspects relating to industrial relations. Most of my friends who are tried trade union leaders on all sides of the House including myself feel that I might perhaps not be going in the right way in emphasising more on conciliation and less on adjudication. I must submit that in my view there is not much difference between them and myself. It may be a difference between tweedledum and tweedledee. I have always felt and I am sure that everyone of my friends opposite will agree with me that in the matter of industrial disputes, settlement at the level of the industry, settlement between the parties across the table, mutual understanding of differences and settlement thereof, will be far more abiding than imposition of a decision by Government or a third party. I do not think there can be any difference of view on this issue. If I had said adjudications would be out of the picture then I might be at fault. I wish it could be out of the picture completely but it is not possible on account of the various circumstances existing. But all depends not on the lip sympathy we show to conciliation, not the desire. We may have merely an empty desire that things should exist in such and such a way and that things should be settled by mutual discussions but actually everything in the world depends on the spirit with which you handle an issue. I want that spirit to exist in the minds of all trade unionists, in the minds of all employers the spirit that we should lead the country towards establishing the principle of settlement of disputes through the joint standing machinery at the level of the industry through conciliation boards, through voluntary arbitration, and if that is not possible, then alone think of adjudication. I do not rule out adjudication at all, I can assure you. Personally I may, but I cannot say this in my personal capacity; I am here as a Minister of the Government of India representing workers, employers and representing public opinion, but I want to beg of my friends who are better trade unionists than myself that in India we should really lay down the ideal of settlement of most of the disputes through conciliation and at the level of the industry. I do hope that if this is the assurance that the trade union leaders and the employers can give me, we can have adjudication as a last resort. I have always held as a trade unionist for 33 years that strikes and lock-outs should be the last resort in the armoury of settlement of trade disputes. I therefore think that adjudication also should be the last resort in the armoury of industrial workers when all other methods at settlement fail. That is the basis on which I have been proceeding.

I also feel that so long as the employers and the workers know the conditions in which they are working and have to work, most of the difficulties will disappear. That is one of the reasons why, at great length, we discussed the question of standing orders in industries, and we felt that standing orders must be tested by the employers and workers, and they should try to come to some conclusion as to what the standing orders should be, and if necessary, when there is difference between the workers and employers in agreeing to the standing orders, they should go to a tribunal to decide what exactly the standing orders should be. If the standing orders are rightly understood on both sides, most of the disputes probably may not arise and any issues will be discussed on the basis of these standing orders.

I submit that it is highly necessary to understand, if we have to succeed, if we have to secure better conditions for workers in every industry, laws may not help you. The Laws will be there and shall be there, there is no question about that. Even if there are laws, unless our workers organisations are strong as the employers' organisations are strong, there is no hope, there

is no salvation for workers. I am myself a trade unionist and continue to be a trade unionist and propagandist even if I am a Minister. I want to appeal to all sections of the House, leaders of the trade union movement sitting here and the workers and trade unionists sitting here or elsewhere to realise that if we want to improve the conditions of the workers, it can only be done by strengthening the unions. When we can strengthen our organisation, then alone will we secure a voice in the industry. This solid, salient and basic fact must be appreciated and digested by every one of us who are interested not only in the best industrial relations, but in securing living conditions for the workers in whatever industry it may be. I am therefore glad and I must congratulate my friends of Railwaymen's Federation and the National Railwaymen's Federation, their leaders Shri Harihar Nath Shastri and Shri Jai Prakash Narayan and others for realising that unity is essential if we should have a strong trade union movement. I always pleaded for one union in one industry and said that then alone can the workers' grievances and demands be redressed in a proper manner. I am not here as a preceptor or as one to teach morals to others. But, I want to tell all sections of the trade union movement to whichever side it may belong, again and again, that the salvation of the workers entirely depends on the strength and the spirit that we could create behind them. I do not wish to digress my attention towards the political field. I am a Labour Minister dealing with labour matters. I also welcome the recent discussions on various issues between Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Shri Jai Prakash Narayan in their personal capacity. It emphasised the desire that India should be made into a great country and that that could only be done when there is co-operation of all the parties who believe in the same ideals. I may be wrong, I may be forgiven if I tell my comrades opposite that we have to build India in our own way and if they also believe in an orderly system of democracy, based on democracy 100 per cent.. I am absolutely certain that as those who who believe in the uplift of the common man—they believe it, of course—we can do wonders, and we can produce results. I do not want to get into forbidden waters and go into political questions. But, my feeling is that if we have to believe in democracy 100 per cent., we have to appeal to the workers' organisations entirely to believe in cent per cent. democracy.

I wish to take up some of the cut motions. I have divided them and analysed them and I would like, in order to save the time of the House, to read out a few statements about them so that Members of this House, if necessary, may put questions at Question Time on these matters.

My hon. friend Mr. Frank Anthony referred to the conditions in the Kolar Gold Fields and also another reference was made to the mills that are about to be closed down. I would like to make the following statement. When I make a reference to the Kolar Gold Fields, I would like the House to remember that it is only on the 1st April 1950 that the Central Government assumed statutory control over these and other mines in Part B States. I do not say this as if suggesting that I would have worked wonders if the mines had been under the Labour Ministry's control from the beginning or that the management or control of the State Government was not up to the mark. My only point is to emphasise that the credit or otherwise relating to the present state of affairs in the Kolar Gold Fields cannot be attributed to the Ministry of Labour which assumed control only a short time ago.

Mr. Frank Anthony recently addressed a letter to me where he has narrated some grievances of certain employees or classes of employees in the gold fields relating to their conditions of service, etc. This matter is being looked into and I have asked the Chief Labour Commissioner to make enquiries. Prior to that, a representation was received from the Non-covenanted Officials Central Union, Kolar Gold Fields. This also was looked into by the Industrial Relations machinery of the Labour Ministry. It appears that terms are now under discussion between the Union and the management. The Union itself has since stated that pending such direct negotiations, no action need be taken by the Government. Among other points there are also those relating to revision of wages, payment of bonuses, reinstatement of certain workers. These, again, are still under investigation though one of the issues relating to bonus has been partially settled by a decision of the Tribunal.

Regarding the proposed closure of the Oorgam gold mines, the management, Messrs John Taylor and Sons, has already intimated its intention to close. There were discussions with the representatives of the management and also officers of the State Government, in the matter. In the light of this, Government is considering a proposal to set up a Committee to investigate the matter. I assure the House

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that a decision on this urgent and important question will be taken very soon. The House will doubtless agree that no real useful purpose will be served until an objective examination of the facts is made by a properly constituted Committee.

The next question that I would like to take up and on which I would like to make a statement relates to the Appellate Tribunals and the delays that are occurring in the settlement of trade disputes by these tribunals. I am, of course, as I have stated, primarily guided by the fact that any settlement reached by mutual agreement will be of a far more abiding and permanent nature than one enforced by the intervention of a third party, be it Government or the Tribunal. Disposal of cases through industrial tribunals is bound to take time. However, endeavour is being made to reduce the time taken by these Tribunals. Besides the Appellate Tribunal to which I will refer later, 44 cases in the cenral sphere were referred during 1951 to the two original Tribunals located at Calcutta and Dhanbad, and four were referred in the same year to *ad hoc* Tribunals. The total number of such cases referred to during 1952 was 29, and this decrease is very largely due to the fact that the Dhanbad Tribunal remained unmanned till recently owing to circumstances beyond our control. Disposal during the last four years or so shows that 43 cases were disposed of by Tribunals in less than six months; fifteen between six and nine months; nine between nine months and a year; while twelve cases took a year for disposal. Coming to the Appellate Tribunal, two branches functioned at Calcutta and Bombay, and a third recently constituted at Lucknow. The number of cases going to the Appellate Tribunal is indeed staggering. Since its inception in August, 1950, 2049 appeals have been filed before it. These appeals represent appeals from all the original Tribunals in India including the Central Tribunals. Of these, 1224 appeals have been disposed off, and 825 are pending. I agree with the maxim that justice delayed is justice denied. The desire for abolition of the Appellate Tribunal is not, however, unanimous, though many who were originally opposed to its abolition are now inclined to agree if alternative safeguards are provided. I am also thinking, in order to expedite these Tribunals' work—and thinking aloud at the present moment—that we might attach assessors representing workers, organizations and assessors representing employers' organisations to sit with the Tribunal so that these assessors from time to time may place before the Judge their points of view in a pointed manner. If they do so, they might not only expeditiously get things solved, but they will also be watchdogs to see that the Judges sit all the hours and try to dispose of matters.

Then, I shall deal with the recognition of unions and the unfair labour practices practised by employers. Healthy trade unions without tieing themselves to political parties should come into existence. I do not mean to say that the workers should not have their political ideals, but unions as such might not become members of political parties. That is what I mean. I do hope that if we follow that, we will be able to put the trade union organizations on a sound basis. Penal provisions against adoption of unfair labour practices on trade union workers and also for ensuring that properly constituted trade unions should be recognized by the employer is engaging the attention of Government. Till the new law is enacted, recognition of trade unions will have to be voluntary in character. As a tangible proof that the Labour Ministry does not discriminate between trade unions which might have different political labels and ideologies, I might cite the composition of our different tripartite conferences and committees where we have been guided solely by the representative character of the different trade union organizations, and this again being determined by the strength of the members. I believe in the organization of trade unions, and we should not allow, under any circumstances, this view escaping our attention. We cannot, however, give a premium to the workers who will not agree to become members of trade unions and yet want to get the advantage of the organizations existing. The proper way to deal with claims of rival trade unions of representative character to recognition is to enquire into their membership and good standing and to accord recognition to the one with the largest stable membership.

Shri Nambiar: The question under dispute all this time is as to what is representative character and how it can be ascertained. Will a ballot be taken if there is any dispute?

Shri V. V. Giri: It is not by the ballot, but it is by some committee—call it an impartial committee, call it the Chief Labour Commissioner, call it some other officer, call it even a

court—which should go into the membership of these unions and settle exactly what the membership is, whether it is of good standing and all other matters and come to some conclusion.

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: If membership is bogus?

Shri V. V. Giri: If membership is bogus, that union will be bogus, and everything will be bogus.

Shri Punnoose: What is your difficulty in accepting secret ballot?

Shri V. V. Giri: As I have said already—I gave an explanation that we need not get non-members into the fold, and we can certainly proceed with the proposition that I have put forward that we shall see that there is an authority which will go into these matters with the help of both sides and come to conclusions.

Then, I shall deal with the question of retrenchment. There is a general agreement that there should be a distinction between dismissal as a disciplinary measure and retrenchment on account of rationalization, standardization or other economic process, and that there should be formulated some basic principles to regulate retrenchment including provision for advance intimation to Government, and the workers concerned of all intended retrenchment. The application of the general principle of 'last come first go' subject to suitable modifications has also been accepted. There is agreement on payment of compensation on some regulated scale. There is also general agreement among the State Governments that Government should have the power to refer reported cases of retrenchment either to Tribunals for decision or to Courts of Inquiry for study and to make recommendations. The Planning Commission has recommended the following:

In order to reduce costs of production, rationalization in industries where labour is surplus to requirements, should be carried out; subject to certain safeguards in the interests of the workers. The main safeguards necessary are: mustery should be standardized; workload should be fixed on a scientific basis; surplus workers should be found employment in other Departments; gratuity should be offered as an inducement to retire voluntarily; workers should be offered facilities for re-training for other occupations, Government bearing the cost of training and the management undertaking responsibility for the worker's maintenance. The fruit of rationalization should be shared between the workers and employers.

I can assure the House that every effort is being made to minimise the hardships arising from retrenchment and also to ensure that those who lose employment get the maximum relief possible.

Shri H. N. Shastri: Have these been done anywhere? Have these steps been taken in any industry?

Shri V. V. Giri: In fact, Tribunals are taking these into consideration, and wherever it is possible, wherever Government intervention comes in, I have been insisting on this; and not only that. I may just state for information that in my tours throughout the country wherever there are disputes, with the assistance of both workers and employers, I am also trying to settle disputes, and in some cases I have succeeded, and that had a very great effect on both workers and employers. We have been trying to see that these principles are accepted, and we shall even consider putting them in the form of legislation if it becomes necessary. Further unanimity on these issues will doubtless be forthcoming when the Labour Relations Bill in its final form is enacted.

Then I shall come to the question of the Employees' State Insurance. There has been some criticism in regard to the implementation of the scheme, and I am sure that in regard to an important measure of this type, the House would like to know from me what the present position is and as to what is holding up progress. This insurance scheme, which is contributory in nature, provides coverage for factory workers in the event of sickness, maternity, employment injury or disability. While the bulk of the fund is recovered from the employers and workers, the Central Government, for the present, makes a contribution equal to two-thirds of the administrative costs. The State Governments also have to meet one-third of the cost of medical care and treatment. Recoveries from employers and workers are made on the actuarial calculations. It is obvious that to run the scheme within the funds realized under the provisions of this Act, it should be possible to undertake measures for medical care and treatment including hospitalization with the amount available for the purpose. The agreement of the State Governments to pay their share, as indicated just now, is also necessary. The scheme has been implemented and is working satisfactorily in Delhi and Kanpur. Some other States

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have brought to our notice financial difficulties standing in the way of their making the required contributions. There has also been some difficulty in getting a settlement with medical practitioners for undertaking work connected with the medical care and treatment of the workers on remuneration at rates which are the maxima the Fund can pay. These difficulties are not insurmountable, and negotiations have been proceeding with a view to a settlement. There has also been some progress in this direction with the result that an agreement has been reached with three State Governments, that have introduced the scheme soon, for implementing the scheme in the whole or certain areas of these States. Negotiations are still proceeding with one or two other States in regard to arriving at a solution which is best from the point of view of the insured workers. Meanwhile every effort is also being made to simplify the working of the scheme by delegation of most of the day-to-day functions to regional levels. By so doing, it is expected that the overheads and other centralised expenditure will be reduced to the minimum, thereby making available as much fund as possible, for measures of direct benefit to the workers concerned. This and other important problems have been fully examined by the Employees State Insurance Corporation, the members of which like myself, appreciate the difficulties in the way, but of course, regret the delay that has been caused in the implementation of the scheme. I would only assure every one here, that I am as anxious as anybody else to see that all these difficulties are overcome, and that this first measure of social security which we have introduced for a limited section of the population should prove a success. I want to assure the House that I am leaving no stone unturned and during my travels to these places, where this has to be implemented, I have been keeping in touch with all the sections, and I am trying to see that at the earliest opportunity, according to the time-table set up, this scheme is put into operation.

Then, I shall deal with the question of minimum wages. I confess I am not altogether happy at the progress made in regard to the fixation of minimum wages in employments included in Schedule I or in respect of agriculture which is included in Schedule II. There have been practical difficulties, particularly in respect of Part B States, where the Act came into operation only at a much later date. To meet the cases of States which have not been able to implement the Act within the existing date, I have already introduced a Bill for the further extention of the date till the 31st of December 1953. I am glad to note, however, that all Part A States, and the Part C States of Delhi, Ajmer, and Coorg have fixed minimum wages in almost all actionable employments. In the Central Government sphere, minimum wages have been fixed in almost all the undertakings, except in respect of certain workers in the Bombay Port Trust. The latter presented some difficulties and they are being removed by one of the amendments in the amending Bill.

Fixation of minimum wages for landless agricultural workers is absolutely essential. It will not be easy to fix minimum wages for agricultural workers by the stroke of the pen. There should be progressive implementation of the same, starting with low wage pocket areas, and this, in accordance with the recommendations of the Planning Commission. I am glad to say that some substantial progress has been made in this direction in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Vindhya Pradesh, Punjab, Ajmer, Bilaspur, Coorg, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Cutch, PEPSU and Rajasthan. Draft proposals have been notified by the Governments of Orissa and Madras, while the Government of West Bengal has expressed its intention to notify such proposals for the districts of Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling. The State Governments are the agencies to deal with the matter, and I am pressing on the State Governments for getting this reform implemented as soon as possible.

I can assure hon. Members that the fixation of minimum wages in agriculture will be given the highest priority because they go a long way towards ameliorating the conditions of this class of labour. Other measures are also under consideration. I would refer hon. Members to the tenancy and land reforms undertaken by the various State Governments.

Another important factor receiving attention is the need for providing house-sites for the landless agricultural labourers. Some other States are also actively considering the question of housing schemes for landless agricultural workers through co-operative organisations.

Then I would like to deal with the question of Employment Exchanges, referred to by some of my hon. friends. There has been a suggestion that the existing Employment Exchanges should be enlarged and re-organised. I do not wish to express my own views

in the matter at the present moment, because a committee with Mr. Shiva Rao, M.P. as its Chairman, has already been set up to examine all matters connected with the Exchanges and their future.

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: Is there any from the Opposition Groups?

Shri V. V. Giri: Shri B. Shiva Rao is a Member of this House. There is no question of...

Shri P. N. Rajabhoj: He is a Congressman.

Shri V. V. Giri: Yes, he is a Congessman.

An Hon. Member: There cannot be two Chairmen.

Shri V. V. Giri: I am sure this as well as other aspects will be fully examined by the Committee, whose recommendations I await with interest, and I am sure those recommendations will be placed before the House for any further suggestions or amendments that have to be made.

The House should appreciate that Employment Exchanges can exert in getting employment for persons registered with them. It is not within their powers to create fresh avenues of employment. Also, there is no law compelling employers to take all men submitted by the Exchanges. In the case of Government Departments, both Central and States, there has been an encouraging increase in the use of Employment Exchanges, as agencies through which recruitment is to be made to appointments other than those to be filled through the Public Service Commissions. Employment Exchanges did succeed in placing about 26 per cent. of the registrants during the period from July 1945 when the service was set up, up to the end of December 1952. The categories that remain on the registers, for the longest period are as is to be expected, educated persons in search of clerical jobs. These constitute 26:5 per cent. of the total number of persons registered, and the percentage of those persons placed in employment is very low indeed. Employment Exchanges cannot find a solution for this. Further employment opportunities have to be created for this category of persons.

Then I shall deal with the coal mines and the conditions prevailing therein.

Shri Eswara Reddy (Cuddapah): What about employment of agricultural labourers?

Shri V. V. Giri: I have already dealt with the employment of agricultural labour.

Shri Nanadas: Employment Exchanges for agricultural labourers.

Shri V. V. Giri: Let us await the suggestions of the Employment Exchanges Enquiry Committee. If they do not mention anything about agricultural labour, we shall deal with it in the House.

One sphere in which direct executive responsibility rests with the Ministry of Labour is in regard to the Coal Mines Welfare Fund, and housing schemes for colliery workers. Welfare schemes, including medical care, hospital treatment for miners; antimalarial measures, adult education, vocational craft education to wives and children of miners, etc. have all been making satisfactory progress. I am afraid, however, that this is not so with regard to the housing schemes. As an encouragement, an outright cash subsidy equal to 25 per cent. of the cost, and subject to a limit of Rs. 750 per house, has also been assured. During 1951-52, 74 applications for 2184 houses under the subsidy scheme were received. It may be that the progress is even slower in the case of Singareni, Kothagudam and Bellampalli coal mines. The plea of the employers there seems to be that they have no capital even for meeting the balance of the cost after providing the 25 per cent. subsidy by Government. The entire responsibility for housing is on the employers. Government has also given a subsidy. If the employers do not proceed in the matter, we may have to consider what action is to be taken against them so that they may take active steps to put housing schemes into operation. If the particular collieries referred to above put forward any feasible and workable schemes by which at least some progressive construction could be undertaken, these will receive the Government's earnest consideration.

There was a suggestion made regarding reduction of hours of work in coal mines. It is only in 1952 that the eight-hour day has been introduced and I am absolutely certain that we should wait for some more time to think of a six-hour day. Even progressive countries are having an eight-hour day. Let us hope the time will come when we shall also sympathetically consider even reduction of hours from what they are today.

Under the Mines Act Government has the power to notify certain diseases connected with mining operations such

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as silicosis and it has already been notified. Expert advice is that tuberculosis cannot be notified as it is a disease common to all and cannot be regarded as an occupational disease connected with work in the mines.

Prof. D. C. Sharma (Hoshiarpur): What about sweepers?

Shri V. V. Giri: You go to the municipality. They deal with them. When the question is put 'What about sweepers? I do not know what to say.

Shri Punnoose: They are swept off.

An Hon. Member: Give them the sweepings.

Shri V. V. Giri: Reference has also been made by certain Members to the Gorakhpur labour organisation. This matter is receiving my attention. It is said—in spite of the fact that there is so much of unemployment in the local areas, why should this Gorakhpur labour be taken on? There is a good deal of substance in the argument. But I would like to go into that matter in a more detailed and critical manner.

Reference has been made to the Plantation Labour Act. The Plantation Labour Act having been enacted, it is the Labour Ministry's intention that it will be enforced also and not that the Act should remain only on paper. There have, however, been suggestions arising out of the recent tea crisis, that the implementation of the Act should be postponed for some time. This particular recommendation of the Rajaram Rao Committee has not yet been accepted and along with other matters relating to the tea industry is likely to be fully discussed by a Committee.

Low wages paid to workers in coal fields. Mr. Vittal Rao referred to it. Whether wages are low or high can be judged only by comparing with wages in other industries and the country generally. There is no denying that as a result of the recommendations of the Board of Conciliation (1947) there has been a substantial increase in the wages of coal miners. The Labour Ministry do not, however, feel that wages fixed in 1947 should necessarily remain static. The question of review of wages and all other matters relating to workers in the coal industry through a fresh Conciliation Board is engaging the attention of Government.

Reinstatement. An hon. Member has referred to reinstatement of workers of the All India General Insurance Company. Complaints to this effect have been received. But I am asking the Labour Chief Commissioner to visit Bombay and investigate this matter. The complainants have agreed that this will be the best course.

Then another hon. Member referred to refusal of payment of dearness allowance to employees of the United Bank of India. The case is under examination and suitable action is being taken in consultation with the legal advisers of Government to have recoveries made of the amounts which may be due to the employees under the award. There has been some delay as during the examination of these cases the employers went to the Bank Tribunal and later to the Appellate Tribunal. It is only after the final dismissal of the Bank's application by the Appellate Tribunal that positive action could be taken by this Ministry.

I think I have generally dealt with most of the cut motions that have been moved in this House. I want to assure hon. Members once again that so far as I am concerned, so long as I am Minister of Labour of the Union Government, I shall do my very best and I shall only be able to succeed if I have the co-operation of the employers and workers and of all sections of this House. I thank you, Sir, for giving me a full opportunity to state my views on various matters.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall put all the cut motions together and then the Demands, unless it is otherwise intended.

The cut motions were negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the Order Paper in respect of Demands Nos. 65, 66, 67, 68, 69 and 131 be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of the corresponding heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof."

The motion was adopted.

(The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the House are reproduced below:—Ed. of P.P.]

DEMAND No. 65—MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 26,78,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Ministry of Labour'."

DEMAND No. 66—CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,16,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Chief Inspector of Mines'."

DEMAND No. 67—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,91,42,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour'."

DEMAND No. 68—EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGES AND RESETTLEMENT.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,24,50,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Employment Exchanges and Resettlement'."

DEMAND No. 69—CIVIL DEFENCE.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,10,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Civil Defence'."

DEMAND No. 131—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR.

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,18,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1954, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Labour'."

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Before adjourning the House, I have to state that discussion on the motion of Shri R. N. S. Deo, Dr. Lanka Sundaram and others regarding the *habeas corpus* petition filed by Babu Ramnarayan Singh will be taken up on the 25th from 5 P.M. to 6 P.M.

It was stated by Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee that an opportunity must be given to discuss something relating to the Jan Sangh movement. He will make a statement on the Jan Sangh movement and discussion on that statement will follow. It will be taken up at 6 P.M. and will be carried on till 7-30 P.M. and if necessary 8 P.M. on the 25th.

The House then adjourned till Two of the Clock on Saturday, the 21st March, 1953.